

# THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

VOL XI

AUGUST, 1921

NUMBER 8

## Conditions and Requirements of the Sheep Business

A Statement Submitted to the Commission of Agricultural Inquiry by the National Wool Growers Association

[In June the two houses of Congress provided for a joint commission to be made up chiefly of Senators and Congressmen to investigate agricultural conditions and report to Congress as to what legislative measures might be enacted to bring agriculture into a proper economic relation to other business. It is this same committee that has been receiving testimony upon the work of the Federal Reserve Board during the last two weeks.

This article contains a part of the statement made to the commission in response to its request for a presentation of conditions and for practical suggestions of remedial measures.]

### **Position of Range Sheep Raisers and Prospects for Wool and Mutton Production**

Speaking first for owners of over twenty million sheep in the range states, (considerably more than one-half of the total in the United States), with most of whom sheep raising is an exclusive business, we will state that aside from lands held the assets of a majority of them would not today meet what is owed.

The following facts have served to depress the sheep business beyond what can be attributed to general deflation:

(1) A considerable part of the 1920 wool clip is still unsold. The part sold brought prices equal to 25 per cent of 1919 prices. This clip was grown altogether on a very high cost basis. (2) The 1921 clip has a very low value. Expenses could not be reduced until November, 1920, at which time wage reductions were possible through lessened competition for labor of railroads and mines. (3) The winter of 1919-1920 was an unusually severe one and followed a dry summer and fall. Losses of stock were severe and expenses for feed purchased at high rates

left most growers deeply indebted to their banks even before the collapse of the wool market on May 20, 1920.

(4) The 1918 wool clip was, in effect, commandeered by the government at less than the 1917 prices. This, together with taxes paid, prevented accumulation of reserves for difficult times.

The future is entirely dependent upon the ability and willingness of the banks and loan companies to afford sufficient time to work out the loans. However, there is considerable doubt as to this being done. Within the last few days a state bank commissioner has notified banks regarding the need of liquidating outstanding loans, particularly mentioning overdue live stock paper. If such action is started it will naturally become more general and a very great decrease in the numbers of breeding stock will be inevitable.

At present, flocks are very much below their usual numbers as a result of forced marketing of ewe lambs last year, co-incident with an unusually expensive winter in 1919-20, and a very short lamb crop following. The 1922 production of wool and of lambs cannot possibly amount to as much as 75 per cent of the average yield and the further liquidation which seems likely will in all probability further reduce production. This condition is upon us in the face of the range feed supply which is, with the exception of parts of two or three states, the best that has been known for many years. It must be remembered that the grazing of live stock is the only possible method of utilizing the principal part of the area of the eleven principal range states (including Texas). In Nevada, Idaho, and Utah, for example, seven-eighths of the acreage is not in cultivation. This figure applies to the lands

outside National Forests and other reservations. The cattle grazing business is in no better condition than the sheep business and suffers from the same fundamental defects in our national land and financial policies.

The very drastic depletion of the breeding flocks and herds which was started in 1920 and which threatens to go further this year means, (1) an acute shortage in wool, mutton and beef, and (2) the paralysis of the principal rural industry of Western states.

The crippling of range stockmen affects the farmers of the West and central West no less vitally. The principal products of the irrigated farms are feed crops. Their natural market is for winter feeding of range breeding stock and the fattening of steers, wethers, or breeding stock that has passed the age of safety for running on the range. The Western farm areas cannot be prosperous if the range sheep and cattle business is cut down. Large quantities of 1920 hay are in the fields and growers are unable to meet any payments upon their loans.

The movement of feeder stock to cornbelt farms is the smallest known since this movement was established and corn and rough feed are either piled up on the farms that grew them or forced in over supply upon a market that cannot possibly absorb them for export or industrial purposes.

In the farming states the low price of wool has stopped a logical expansion of sheep raising on high priced land which had well started and was greatly needed in the truly economic use of the products and by-products of valuable land and also as a large contribution to the problem of maintaining farm incomes with a scant supply and high cost of farm labor.

In this connection we hope your

commission is fully appreciative of prospective wool trade conditions. The meat problem is usually more fully considered. The farm production of lamb and mutton offers the best prospects of increasing our meat supply without making necessary any reduction of cattle or swine populations. But mutton production cannot be separated from wool values.

In 1914, prior to the war, the wool trade was rudely awakened to the fact that world production was falling short of consumption. The war increased consumption of wool in some countries but completely checked civilian trade in wool fabrics. In Europe and in the rest of the world as well there is a vast accumulation of needs of woolen goods but financial conditions prevent resumption of trade. Recently, Germany has resumed buying in British wool sales and the surplus that has piled up will soon disappear and demand and supply will be as in the first half of 1914. The United States will then be, as it was in 1917, dependent upon Great Britain for military requirements of wool. In peace our mills will be increasingly dependent upon a diminishing foreign supply. The distress of present conditions would seem really to be secondary to the seriousness of our national safety in the future and our industrial future is endangered unless we clear the way for a larger wool production upon the farms and upon the ranges of our own country.

#### **The Emergency Tariff:**

A drop in wool values, following the war, was anticipated by sheepmen. It was not anticipated that our markets would be left open as a dumping place for accumulations of other countries and our importers enabled to receive the bonus of 25 per cent which the exchange conditions afforded them. Nor was it anticipated that the Federal Reserve Board's suggestion for deflation would be made in the early part of the regular marketing season of a wool clip produced at the highest cost ever known.

The Emergency Tariff came into effect on May 27. Its great value has

been too lightly estimated by many who do not consider that in the case of wool, the political juggling between December 7, 1920, and April 9, 1921, caused an overloading of the American market with imported wools that cannot fail to keep the market at an abnormally low level for some time.

#### **The Live Stock Finance Corporation:**

The delay and drastic deflation of our national financial affairs revealed a dangerous defect in our normal financing of agricultural production. Loans on breeding sheep and cattle had, and still have, no standing in the discounting market, if drawn for a period longer than that provided for the service of speculative live stock feeders, i.e., six months.

Our efforts to secure temporary relief from this inequitable plan, through Senator Stanfield's amendment to the War Finance Corporation Act and the Sterling-Smith resolution were set aside. The Treasury Department sought to evade the delay incident to Congressional action by the organization of a special fifty million dollar corporation. Five serious weeks have passed and not one new loan has been made nor an old loan renewed. We still hope for a practical service from the corporation and adherence to the early announcement of intention to carry loans secured by breeding stock through a period of 30 months in order to allow time for a turn-over of the investment.

#### **Freight Rates:**

Prohibitive and unjustifiable rates of charge for transporting live stock had a great deal to do with pulling down values of collateral and increasing expense to the point where it was not a matter of reduced profits but rather one of increased losses.

The reduced wage scale for railway employes has gone into effect but the same high freight rates apply and are bringing the live stock business to a condition in which it will be unable to furnish any business to the carriers.

We recommend and urge upon your commission that you insist upon immediate readjustment of freight rates upon wool and live stock.

#### **Stabilizing Home Markets:**

To prevent extreme fluctuations in prices and profits is the only certain means of stabilizing an industry to the point of ensuring efficiency and safe and reasonable expansion. An importing country must have regard to the kind of competition that home producers must face in home markets. We believe that the Fordney regular Tariff Bill is well calculated to stabilize our various lines of business and properly recognize the interests of employes and consumers generally. Unfortunately, schedule 11 contains some features which would operate to defeat what appears to be, and what we believe should be, the real objects of the bill. We refer to (1) the indefensible 35 per cent limitation upon wool duties, (2) to inadequacy of 25 cents per pound, and (3) to a manufacturer's compensatory protection of from 20 to 36 cents per pound upon goods, when as a matter of fact the protection to growers would in many cases be less than 10 cents. We particularly call the attention of your commission to this latter point because nothing but evil can possibly come from giving extra protection to manufacturing under the guise of protection to a branch of agriculture.

We have confidence that the final form of the regular tariff bill be such as will serve to stabilize the business of agricultural production and harmoniously to relate it to other industries and to the present and future welfare of this nation.

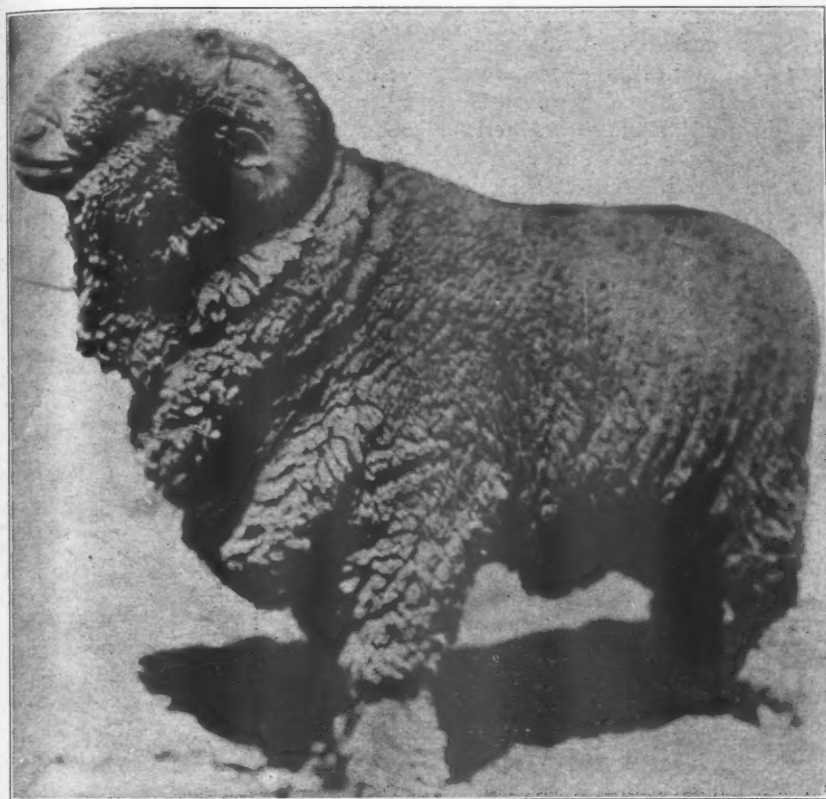
#### **Adequate Financing of Agricultural Production:**

We suggest to your commission:

(1) That loans upon breeding live stock be made eligible for discount by the Federal Reserve System when drawn for 30 months, and (2) that a workable system be established for financing wool and other agricultural articles from the time of production to the time of actually entering consumption.

The range sheep business is in its present deplorable state largely as a result of what is now seen to have been

(Continued on page 42.)



One of Clark & Co.'s Rambouillet Stud Rams for the Sale.

## Purchase Good Breeding Rams in Dull Times

Alfred Mansell, one of England's most prominent sheep auctioneers and secretary of the Shropshire Flock Record Society, advises breeders to use the castrating knife freely in dull years.

In his opinion such years hold out an opportunity to the breeder for improving his flock and advancing its reputation through rigorous weeding out processes. In years of strong demand practically all of the breeder's surplus stock is sold for breeding purposes. Knowing that he will have urgent requests for all he can produce, he is tempted to do no culling before breeder-buyers are invited in to inspect his wares. In such periods Mansell very well knew how little breeders would listen to advice which directed them to use the castrating knife freely. But they did listen to him in dull times and for the betterment of the Shropshire breed. Those who bought in such periods got many times better rams for their money than they could

have procured in prosperous times.

To a very large extent, breeders, even though they are not advised by men of Mansell's type, use the castrating knife pretty freely in times like the present. They know that the demand for bucks will be limited, and that ever one "left over" is an unmitigated nuisance on the ranch and that he does not bring enough to pay for his salt as a product on the open market. Therefore, only a limited number are developed and these are the very best out of the buck lamb crop.

We castrated a larger percentage of our lambs this year than in any other year in the past decade. We said, "Since demand will be slow we will develop only a few of the best, and it is evident that those who purchase from us next year will get a superior lot of rams."

In view of the foregoing remarks, I am confident that the quality of the

rams offered in the sale this year will be unusually high. Breeders will not feel justified in bringing anything but the best to the sale. They may not be fitted so highly or groomed so well as the offerings in years past, but the quality will be there just the same and the sheep will be all the better for breeding purposes if they carry somewhat less fat and fleece than some of the high selling entries at former sales.

Not only does the opportunity come to buy good rams in dull times at reasonable prices, but there are perfectly good reasons why they should be purchased. Good stock under capable management always renders a better account of itself than inferior stock. Experience has supported this statement to the point where there is no room for debating it. As a rule the sharpest discriminations with respect to quality are made in dull times.

In many respects quiet periods should be times of preparation for the more prosperous conditions which are sure to come later. It is absurd to assume that the sheep industry is ruined. It is not. But if the sheepman who has suffered because of the adverse conditions which we all deplore and regret, fails to take advantage of opportunities for improvement within his reach he is handicapping himself for weathering the storm and multiplying his chances for failure.

During the dark days in finance prior to the election of McKinley, my father held on grimly to his sheep while many of his neighbors dispersed their flocks. He bought better rams than ever before and paid fewer actual dollars for them. When the up-turn in prices for mutton and wool came, he had better sheep to sell than anyone in our region. Is it not likely that the present holds a similar opportunity for many sheepmen in our great West? I would neither minimize nor exaggerate the difficulties we have met in the past two years, but I would say, "Hold on if you can, come to the sale and buy good rams and thereby secure aids that will help you recoup the losses of the past."

W. C. Coffey.



### ANOTHER CHAPTER FROM SANDY'S LOG—AND A MONOLOG

Train No. Ex. Engine 2539, Division East, Pocatello to Montpelier (98 miles.)

Ordered for 2:15 a. m.  
Made up 2:40 a. m.  
Air ready 2:55 a. m.  
Departed 3:10 a. m.

#### DELAYS

Pocatello—55 min.  
25 min. train not ready.  
15 min. test air.  
15 min. get orders and pull out.  
Mile post 204—10 min.  
Flag block signal Ex. 2040.  
McCammon—45 min.  
15 min. inspection.  
30 min. follow No. 6.  
Bancroft—10 min.  
Inspection, coal and water.  
Talmage—25 min.  
No. 19.  
Strachan—10 min.  
Inspection and water.  
Cavanagh—10 min.  
No. 28 by.  
Georgetown—20 min.  
No. 27.  
Montpelier—  
Arrive 10:15.  
Began unloading 1:20.  
Lambs on feed 2 p. m.

The above is the running and stopping time of a trainload of 43 cars of lambs on the morning of July 3, 1921, (I.-H. R. R.), which when interpreted means first year of high railroad rates—together with sufficient dead freight to ease the conscience of sundry yardmasters and dispatchers in the employ of the Oregon Short Line, from Pocatello to Montpelier, stops at both ends inclusive, Sandy along.

"Yes man and they told me before we started that the railroad had nothing else to do but hurry us through; maybe the railroad intended just to do that very thing, and did do it till we reached the Eastern division, but a cog slipped somewhere.

"Ye wad think noo that a train of

43 cars at present rate wad make enuf revenue without sticking a lot of dead freight on to us, but A' honestly believe it is against their religion to have a straight train o' live stock, at least that is ma experience. Ye'll aye find an empty coal car or two, maybe a load of lumber, maybe a car ta'en aff a fast freight an put on a stock train, because its wheels wadna stan fast movin'. Aye something like that to gie the engineer a chance tae back up ance or twice before he gets the slack oot and gets to movin'.

"'Tonnage,' they say, 'must have tonnage.' If A' was asked to define tonnage A' wad say: 'Tonnage is an excuse for overtime, at least enuf of it is,' and' A' defy them to contradict me.

"Yes, sir, the dispatcher said we have to have tonnage on that engine, cannot send an engine of that capacity out without tonnage. 'Fact of the matter is you have got the wrong engine, not the engine intended for your train at all.'

"An he told the truth, very rare in railroad circles, we had the wrong engine, or the wrong man drivin it, A'll no say which. His name A' think was Wilson, forget his initials but wad say offhand that J. H. wad be aboot richt. Jar Hard Wilson, so that A'll no confuse him with ither Wilsons, like Woodrow Wilson noo an' Doc. Wilson, wi apologies to Doc for mentionin him in the same paragraph wi them afore mentioned, an T. E. Wilson, the spokesman for the Packers, apologise to him too for the same reason.

"Even a bad run comes to an end, and there is always some excuse for it, thought it may be accepted for its face value; the excuse A' mean, an' more excuses for inability to unload before a delay of three or fowre hours due to a flooded pasture in Bear Lake County somewhere, which also like many stockmen's notes has little face value.

"A little more appreciation of the fact that lambs are perishable commodities on the part of the officials responsible for train movements, and a further appreciation of the fact that stockmen are paying more than the

traffic will bear should surely lead to an improvement on our Western lines at least comparative to that noted on the Eastern competitive roads where, in place of condemning every railroad official to a slow ride on their own equipment thru Hades, we prayed that the train would stay on the track, knowing full well that if it left it our final destination would depend on the life we had led.

"Yes, mon, but sometimes there is extenuating circumstances, as for instance the remark of a conductor to his brakeman, 'Our over time began at eleven-thirty.' A' honestly believe that instead of paying a man extra for wasting time a premium would be better for making time.

"Overtime is due to hot-boxes, and some other mechanical defects, but in many cases it is directly traceable to lack of conscience."

Hugh Sproat.

#### KEEPING UP THE BANDS

The dry ewe is the big drain on Idaho flocks where early lambing is practiced. From ten to fifteen per cent of ewes fail to lamb at all, and as the wool does not pay operating costs, they are carried at a loss. Several Idaho sheepmen are going to try and avoid this loss by breeding these ewes for late lambing. Their intention is to put a few rams in with their bands in November after the Hampshire rams have been taken out. For this purpose Rambouillet rams will be used on cross-bred ewes and cross-bred rams on Rambouillet ewes. The lambs from these crosses will come in May and the ewe lambs will be held to make up the loss in the flocks. If 50 per cent of these dry ewes lamb, the venture will prove profitable. I know of one man who lambed in February and March who has 1,500 dry ewes. No doubt most of these ewes would lamb if bred for a May drop. Late breeding, however, may tend to make them breed late each year, but even at that the venture will be profitable.

S. W. McClure

Nampa, Idaho.





Some of H. L. Finch's big-boned yearling Hampshire Rams.

### STOCK GROWERS' FINANCE CORPORATION

The announcement of the above corporation's readiness to do business as discussed in the July Wool Grower was made on July 12, and is reprinted below.

It is understood that no special allotment of the funds will be made to different sections or states. The announcement shows that the \$50,000,000 placed at the disposal of the corporation may be used as a revolving fund. The paper handled is to be kept alive for a period of thirty months, though renewals will be required for the usual six months' periods. On this basis the notes will be eligible for discount in Federal Reserve banks and while no statement is made that such will be done, it appears that the corporation will be in a position to discount paper with the Federal Reserve through the banks supporting the corporation when such action becomes necessary. Small committees of bankers have been appointed for the range states to receive applications from banks and loan companies and to prepare the paper for and recommend it to the corporation.

The corporation's announcement of July 12, reads as follows:

"We are pleased to announce that this organization is ready to receive applications for re-discount from banks and cattle loan companies who file with the corporation a satisfactory financial statement.

"Loans offered must be secured by mortgage on live stock, showing a substantial equity in value over the amount advanced, and all loans must

be accompanied by the following: Report of an inspector showing number and quality and his estimate of the value of the security; original chattel mortgage or certified copy showing recorder's certificate; office copy of the chattel mortgage (need not be certified); financial statement of the maker of the paper and abstract of the records. All loans must be eligible for rediscount with the Federal Reserve banks, and the papers should be prepared accordingly.

"On all notes, the last as well as all previous endorsements, must waive demand notice and protest.

"Loans will be accepted with date of maturity running six months or less, and if found satisfactory, will be extended or renewed for periods of six months or less, not exceeding a total length of time of thirty months from date of loan, at which time payment will be required.

"Please submit applications for loans

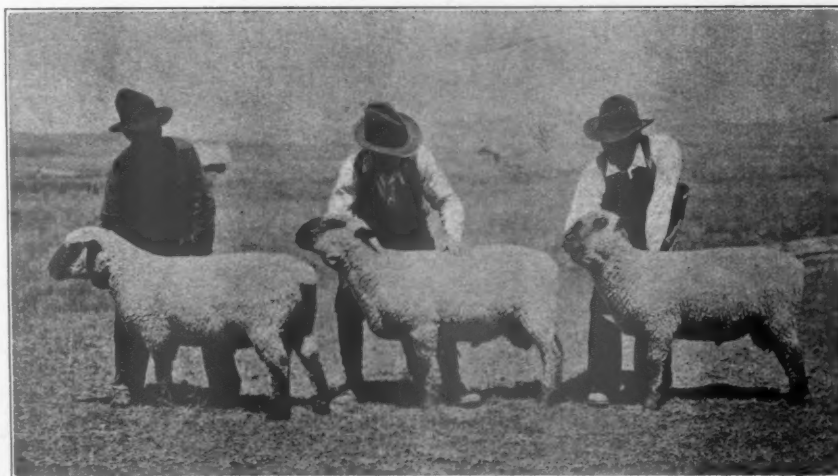
a few days in advance of the need for the money, giving sufficient time for our organization to act on applications intelligently. Not having the organization to properly inspect and investigate loans, and recognizing that the situation requires that the funds be made available promptly, the policy of making no direct loans has been adopted. The rate of discount to be charged for the present is fixed by the Executive Committee at seven per cent.

"Many banks who have never handled live stock loans are participating in this movement to assist the live stock interests and not just to relieve the banks and loan companies; therefore, it is expected that the banks and loan companies will use the privileges of the organization freely, and having been provided a method to carry this class of loans, they will continue their efforts to support the industry by making new loans. We feel if this policy is faithfully carried out, satisfactory results will immediately follow, and to that end we ask the co-operation of the friends of the live stock industry.

"All correspondence should be addressed to the Stock Growers' Finance Corporation, Room 1054, Continental & Commercial Bank Building, Chicago Illinois.

Yours truly,  
STOCK GROWERS' FINANCE CORPORATION,

M. L. McClure, President."



Range Hampshire Rams for the Sale from Knollin-Hansen Co.

## THE WOOL OF COLUMBIA SHEEP

By J. A. Hill

This year at the shearing of the government flock at Dubois, Idaho, I got my first chance to see the Columbias since they have been given a name and started on their way toward becoming a new breed. I propose to give here my impressions of the Columbias, for these new sheep have always been of interest to readers of the Wool Grower ever since Professor Marshall published his first account of them in the issue of this magazine for January, 1920. It is due to the courtesy of Messrs. Geo. M. Rommel, D. A. Spencer, C. G. Potts and V. O. McWhorter of the U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry that I am able to write this article. They allowed all the visiting animal husbandmen and range breeders who accepted their invitation to be present at the shearing every chance to inspect the sheep and the plant. We were invited to handle the sheep and make up groups for any sort of comparison we wanted to make as well as to carry away samples of wool for examination in our home laboratories. The meeting was a regular graduate school in sheep production, and it is to be regretted that more breeders and college men, especially from the state in which the Government Range Experiment Station is located, did not attend.

What follows in regard to the Columbias is based on my observations made during my stay at the government station and subsequently by measurements on the samples of the Columbia and Corriedale wool which I brought home and studied in the laboratory of the University of Wyoming.

In comparing the Columbias with the Corriedales I am not taking the ground that the Columbia should be made as near like the Corriedale as possible. That question must be left to the men in charge of the work and to such others as they choose to call on for advice. The comparison is made



Columbia yearling Rams consigned to the Ram Sale by the U. S. Sheep Experiment Station.

because the Corriedale is an established breed of the half-bred type, and also because it has been successful abroad and is rapidly gaining favor in this country. Moreover, the Columbias and Corriedales are being run side by side in the government flocks.

The Columbias are bigger than the Corriedales. In size and form they favor the Lincoln side of their ancestry more than the Corriedales do. In fact, a few of the largest and coarsest ones might be thought of as three-quarter-bred Lincolns rather than the half-breds which they are in fact. They also produce more wool to the fleece than the Corriedales in the same herd. I should say, after a hasty inspection of the summaries of the government shearing records, that they produce 8 or 10 per cent more. It will be found, however, that the proportion of wool to body-weight is about the same as it is for the Corriedales. In fact, from the data given in Professor Marshall's paper, which has already been referred to, the proportion is almost exactly the same.

The wool of the Columbias is on the average not quite so fine as that of the Corriedales that are in the government flock. A good deal of the Columbia wool is on the low side of three-eighths blood (50's on the Bradford scale) with quite a noticeable proportion of quarter-blood (48's). The Corriedales, on the other hand, are largely on the high side of three-eighths-blood (56's) with perhaps 25 per cent of low half-

blood (58's). Before the war this difference in fineness would have made very little difference in value, but today it makes three or four cents difference at the ranch—enough to make the Corriedales return more money to the fleece than the Columbias.

The fleece of the Columbia as it exists today is excelled by that of the Corriedale in uniformity. Of course it is important to know the relative rigor with which the two breeds have been culled with respect to this quality before making a comparison that is certain to hold. I have no definite information on this point, but as I saw them the Columbias did not hold up in fineness from shoulder to breech as well as the Corriedales. In this respect many of the Columbias were as good as the average of the Corriedales, but none of the Corriedales were as deficient at the breech as the worst of the Columbias.

In uniformity as between fibers in the same area the Columbia falls noticeably short of the Corriedale. It has in fact a hard competitor here, for the Corriedale is on the whole the best of the medium wools in regard to this kind of uniformity. There are probably enough individuals among the Columbias having fleeces in which the fibers are of uniform fineness to make it possible to improve this character by selection. For instance, I found one shoulder sample from a Columbia yearling ewe that proved by actual measurement to be as uniform as the

best samples of Corriedale I had examined either from this country or from Australia or New Zealand. But unfortunately the sample from the breech of this same ewe was a very bad mixture of fine fibers and coarse ones, a rather bad example of what the rangemen call "dog-hair on the hind legs." It is more than likely that other fleeces will be found in which the uniformity of this shoulder sample extends all over the fleece.

The importance of having the fibers of uniform fineness in the fleece depends on three facts. First, the spinning capacity of a wool is determined to a large extent by the diameter of the coarsest fibers rather than by the average diameter of all the fibers. This fact is the basis of the practice of wool graders and sorters for judging the quality of wool by the tip, the part of the staple where any coarse fibers are sure to be most easily visible. Second, a clearer and brighter worsted yarn can be spun from fleeces in which the fibers are all of nearly the same diameter than from fleeces equally fine on the average but composed of a mixture of fibers part fine and part coarse. Third, extremely fine fibers cannot stand the stress that has to be put on the coarser ones in combing and drawing and, therefore, they cause an undue amount of noils and waste, by-products that have to be sold at low prices.

While there are many individuals among the Columbias that are practically all that can be desired with respect to softness and brightness, the breed as a whole is excelled by the Corriedales. These characters make wool attractive to the buyers and besides a larger proportion of a clip that is bright and soft will be put into the higher grades and sorts than would otherwise be the case. Care should be taken, though, not to over-estimate the commercial importance of a difference of fineness and brightness no greater than exists between the wool from these two breeds in the government flock this year. It has been my observation that small variations in these properties do not have a meas-

urable effect on the price of range wool under the present system of marketing.

So far as has come to my knowledge there have been no trials to determine the value of the Columbia rams as sires when mated with cross-bred range ewes of the kind that are all too plentiful on the Wyoming ranges, ewes that are frowsy and scanty of fleece and coarse at the breech. Such a trial would be a severe test of their prepotency, but rams that can give good results under these conditions are what the West is in dire need of today.

Since those who are responsible for the Columbias do not feel that they have a completely finished breed or that they have attained all the perfection that is possible, what goals shall they set, toward which to carry further improvement? To go back in reverse order over the points already noticed, it is not likely that much thought will need to be given to softness and brightness. As long as the breed is in the hands of those who know and prize beautiful wool these points will be taken care of almost automatically.

It does not seem that there can be a chance for any difference of opinion in regard to the desirability of striving for a more uniform fleece from shoulder to breech and of the fibers with one another. It seems to me that the Corriedale is good enough to be made the standard in regard to uniformity, at least for the present.

Nor would there likely be any dissension on the proposition that the Columbias should be selected for finer wool, provided it were certain that prices would continue to favor the finer as against the coarser cross-breeds to the extent that they do today. It is a dangerous undertaking to attempt to prophesy what turn the demand for an article will take when that article is as much subject to the vicissitudes of fashion as is wool. However, until a Merino sheep with a mutton carcass is developed, there promises to be a rather chronic shortage of

(Continued on page 43.)



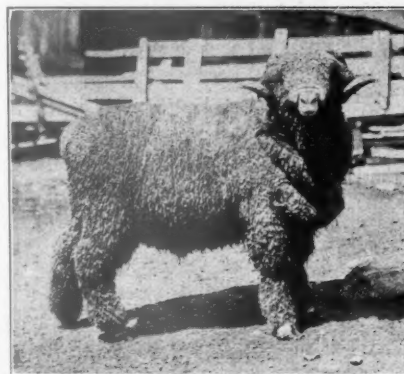
G. N. Merritt & Sons pure-bred range Rams that will be offered at the Salt Lake Sales.

### THE FINANCIAL SITUATION

Rumors of a cheaper and slightly more plentiful supply of money are coming out of the East. This is the one thing needed to stimulate and stabilize the sheep industry. Why not place the blame for our present condition where it belongs? Squarely on the Federal Reserve System. Two years ago any and all paper bearing a signature or the maker's mark was rediscounted without question. Then the autocratic powers suddenly became frightened at the size of the structure they had built up and attempted to call in the loans even more speedily than they had put them out. We are all familiar with the result.

Let us hope that experimenting is over and that we can get down to a business basis. The fifty million dollar pool should help the loan companies and banks that are carrying live stock paper.

Rupert, Idaho. E. R. McClure.



One of Seely's Top Yearling Rambouillet Stud Rams.



## SECRETARY HOOVER ENDORSES LONG-TERM LIVE STOCK LOAN

In an open letter, dated July 19, and addressed to Senator Capper, Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, showed very plainly the great need of permanent facilities for the handling of long-term loans secured by breeding stock. His letter is as follows:

I beg to acknowledge your letter of July 9 inquiring as to bearing of our credit facilities upon the distribution of farm produce and for my views as to the remedies proposed.

For purposes of discussion, the types of credit needed in the agricultural industry may be divided into the following classes:

Loans up to six months for either production or marketing annual produce.

Loans between six months and twelve months for these purposes.

Loans from one to three years for producing and marketing of cattle.

Loans from one to three years for farm equipment.

Long-term loans for purchase and improvement.

Obviously all of these needs are partially covered by the farmer's own capital, and all of these fields are partially covered by present credit machinery, and some of them fully. All of these credit areas are suffering in various degrees because of the present war-born famine in capital just as are also building, railways, and other industries. This situation is getting steadily better with liquidation of high prices and therefore a reduction in the total volume of capital needed.

Organization of farm credits up to six months are covered by the Federal Reserve System, and its smooth working depends only upon the member banks and the Reserve Board. This system, however, being a mobilization of the demand deposits of the country can not be called upon for loans of over six months on agricultural paper without jeopardizing the whole commercial banking structure—upon the safety of which the farmer is greatly concerned.

The long-term mortgage loans are with the alterations proposed in Congress well organized through the balance wheel of the Federal Farm Loan Banks. Some farmers could provide more of their needs in other directions if they would take greater advantage of the system instead of reliance upon short-term loans.

I am convinced that if competent inquiry were made it would prove that great deficiencies lie in our agricultural credit organization in the systematic provision for those needs mentioned between the terms of six months and three years; that is, credits that fall outside the area of both the Federal Reserve and the Federal Farm Loan Banks.

I am convinced that six months is too short for farm paper in a great number of cases. The farmer often has to borrow from planting to some months after harvest unless his produce is to be forced into the markets just after harvest instead of over the crop year. This matter has added importance at the present time because of the recent heavy losses of the farmers, because of the large carry overs, because the poverty of foreign buyers tends to delay their buying until their own crops are exhausted, and thus necessitates our farmer holding on longer unless he would depreciate his price. Cattle obviously cannot be handled on six months' credit. The alarming increase in tenant farming gives warranty for execution of credit facilities for equipment through which he might be helped into an ownership.

We have been endeavoring to meet temporary and acute situations by mobilizing the private capital such as the cattle and cotton pools. I believe some sort of definite organization should be set up for mobilizing credit to cover shortage in this special area in the same sense that the Federal Reserve organizes very short credits, and the Farm Loan Banks mobilize long mortgage credits. Such credits should be supplied from investment capital of the country rather than from the commercial pool. Such a proposal is not paternalistic any more than are the other two systems. As to the precise method, whether by organizing a new department in the Federal Farm Loan Banks, or otherwise, requires much thought and investigation, but such a system is, I believe, needed and is entirely feasible.

Yours faithfully,  
Herbert Hoover.

(Signed):

## ATTRACTIVE PRIZES FOR OGDEN 1922 STOCK SHOW

The Third Annual Ogden Live Stock Show will be held at the Ogden Stock Yards, January 3-7, 1922. The management has provided a generous prize list for fat and breeding sheep, breeding beef cattle, single and carlot steers, dairy cattle and for breeding and fat swine.

First premium of \$10 (\$8 for seconds and \$5 for thirds), are offered for Rambouillets, Hampshires, Cotswolds and Corriedales. For the best carload of 50 fat lambs, \$25 is offered and an additional \$50 for the champion load.

For a Students' Judging Contest, \$110 will be distributed. Boys and Girls club members are offered \$25 for judging of fat cattle, dairy cattle, hogs or sheep and premiums of \$10 each for best calves, pigs and lambs.



A Ram Sale Entry from the Gillett Sheep Company.

## SELECTING RAMS

The Sixth Annual Ram Sale under the auspices of the National Wool Growers Association will be held this year at Salt Lake City, August 29 to 31. It is very likely to be the bargain event of the year in sheep circles. Any sheepman who must have rams this year should be there, for it will be the largest and best collection of rams to be found in one place on this continent this year, and whoever buys them will get the biggest value for his money.

This show of sheep is alone worth all the time and money it costs to see it. You can see the best productions of the leading breeders in the whole country and of the various breeds at one time and in one place. You can practically put the animals from various flocks side by side and compare them to your complete satisfaction. This eliminates the expense of traveling hundreds or thousands of miles and carrying several animals in your mind. Here you can determine on the ones that suit you best, and in order to get them all you have to do is nod your head the right way to the auctioneer and the animals will be yours. If you have to nod several times you may be assured that some other fellow's judgment runs along the same lines as yours and he is willing to back it with his good money; for nobody makes a bid that does not mean business. The management has fully demonstrated in past sales that this is an auction which is absolutely clean, honest, and demands fair play for both buyer and seller.

The men who are consigning the sheep to this sale have proven by their works that they are the best breeders and that their products carry not only the individuality which is in plain sight before you but more than that these animals are backed up by the best breeding to be obtained and the responsibility of the men who bred and raised these sheep to all intents and purposes guarantees the breeding value of these animals. It is this factor which is really most important to



Rambouillet Range Rams from the U. S. Sheep Experiment Station at Dubois, Idaho.

the buyer. One buys these sheep for their progeny, not just the mere pounds of wool and mutton that stand before you. The value of a stud ram is determined by the lambs he gets. The only way you have of judging that value in a young, untried ram is by his individual appearance, combined with the character of his breeding.

Especially do we consider this matter of breeding important in the selection of real stud rams, and is one of the factors to which too little attention has been given in selections at past sales. In all other classes of live stock, whether cattle, hogs, or horses, the matter of breeding has been a large factor in determining the value of potential sires. Once in a great while an animal of plain or unknown breeding develops into a good sire, but discriminating and progressive breeders have always looked at the animal and then

demanding knowledge of his breeding; what are his sire and his dam are important questions. With sheep the breeders who will make the greatest and quickest improvement will be those who give full consideration to the breeding of sires they propose to use.

At Salt Lake City the last three days of August you will find the best bred individual rams in this country offered to buyers at their own prices. There will be bargains, lots of them. There always have been in past sales, even when some high figures were made. We know men who come every year, keep their eyes open, and get rams at prices that pay them well for coming to Salt Lake. This year will likely prove to be a year of bargains. If you need good sheep and want them cheap be at Salt Lake August 29, and nod right to the auctioneer.

R. A. Wood.



A sample of the Knollin Rambouillet Range Rams at the Sale.

# NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

Published Monthly by the National Wool Growers Association Company, (Inc.)

Published at 303 McCormick Bldg., Salt Lake City, Utah  
SUBSCRIPTION \$1.50 PER YEAR

Entered as Second Class Matter January, 1913,  
at the Postoffice at Salt Lake City, Utah.

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# EDITORIAL DISCUSSION

## The Lamb Market:

The month developments, as reported in this issue, show an improvement in the factors that have chiefly been responsible for the continued and severe difficulty of sheep raisers.

The lamb market has remained fairly stationary on a basis from 10 to 11 cents for the better killing stock. Feeding lambs which were in very low demand until the middle of July have been more sought after and it now seems certain that there will be a good demand for feeders, though the bankers who support the cornbelt buyers also share feeling that purchase must be made on a lower basis than that of last year.

The limited movement of feeders to the country in the early part of the season will restrict the receipts later on when range run is heavier.

The reduced shipments plainly reflect the extent to which liquidation of breeding stock has gone, and if range shippers find it possible to retain their ewe lambs this fall, as it now seems probable they will do, the later markets will also show reduced runs.

## Wool Values:

Everything in the wool situation indicates strength except the prices actually being paid. The activity of the mills bears out the statement repeatedly made in these columns that there is a great accumulation of clothing requirements in this country. People who delayed purchases during the war and subsequently are beginning to find that they can obtain better values and an active consumption is the result. Aside from distressed sales in both the East and the West, the price recovery seems to be retarded through delayed action on the part of the buying side. There appears to be a hope that there may be a period of free wool after the Emergency Tariff Bill expires on November 27th, and before the effectiveness of the regular tariff law. We do not believe that any such condition will

develop, but the fact that such is possible seems to serve to hold the market down.

Senator Gooding has introduced a resolution providing for an extension of the Emergency Tariff until such time as the regular law comes into effect. It is expected that the resolution will be acted upon if Congress should decide to adjourn for any length of time before the completion of the Tariff bill.

## Finances:

The Stock Growers Finance Corporation for which the Treasury Department is really responsible is now functioning. Further delay has been occasioned by failure of Western committees to receive instructions promptly. It appears, however, that the corporation can afford relief required by bankers and loaning companies, who must have fresh funds for carrying their clients and particularly to make it possible for them to hold this year's ewe lambs for addition to the breeding stocks.

After some confusion and heated discussions of Senator Norris' plan for government financing of agricultural exports, the work was placed with the War Finance Corporation. We understand that in its present form which is likely to be agreed to by the lower house, this corporation will also handle live stock paper from banks and loan companies but none direct from the owners.

Reports of the program to be completed prior to adjournment of Congress for a short period, state, that Senator Capper's bill is to be acted upon. This bill provides that the Secretary of Agriculture shall be a member of the Federal Reserve Board and that five members shall be appointed by the President with "due regard to a fair representation of the different commercial, industrial, and geographical divisions of the country."



### A PERMANENT TARIFF

The Fordney Tariff Bill is still in the hands of the Senate Finance Committee. No date has been set for its presentation to the Senate after receiving such alterations as may be decided upon by the committee. In consideration of the somewhat hasty work necessary in the final draft of the bill by the House Committee and the unavoidable restrictions of debate on the floor of the lower house, it would seem quite desirable that the Senate should use sufficient time for mature deliberation on the provisions of so important a measure.

Present conditions afford a greater possibility for permanency than has been offered in any previous consideration of tariff measures. There is comparatively little partisan feeling and the provisions for empowering the President to grant concessions to foreign countries receiving American products on a fair trading basis should go far to remove the need for re-writing the measure in the future.

Unfortunately, some of the provisions of the House bill seem to represent a compromise on matters of principle and also to be partly in the nature of expediency. No final nor permanently satisfactory action can ever result from any other course than of hewing to the line of what is right and what is believed to be for the continued best interests of the entire public. With the disappearance of much of the partisan feeling that has formerly been occasioned by the consideration of tariff measures, we have had an encouraging development of a national business policy in which America is considered first with a view to making her strong enough to play the part in international matters that is being forced upon her. This larger part in world affairs comes to America chiefly through her disinterested position and commercial independence rendered possible by sufficiency in extent and variety of territory.

Prior to the insertion of the 35 per cent limiting clause by the House committee, the wool schedule represented

a great advance in fairness to all concerned and in prospect of permanency. It remains for the Senate to realize its responsibility and to turn out a bill that is defensible from all angles. Wool growers are prepared to assume all responsibility associated with an adequate tariff upon imported wools. They will also publicly defend duties upon manufactures of wool that may be found necessary in justice to the manufacturer through the wool duties. They cannot be expected to support and defend a law in which the manufacturers' compensatory duties are based upon a raw tariff which appears to be levied in the opening of a paragraph and is withdrawn at the close of the same paragraph. Nothing short of the complete elimination of the 35 per cent limiting clause as written in lines 22 and 23 of paragraph 1102 of the Horse bill can be considered satisfactory or justifiable from any standpoint.

Wool growers should see to it that their Senators at Washington are fully informed as to the dissatisfaction that exists over the present indefensible features of the House bill. Strong efforts have been put forth in Washington to defeat the real object of Congress in providing reasonable protection for wool growers. Many incorrect statements have been broadcasted, particularly in reference to the effect upon prices that would result from the operation of a raw wool duty of 25 cents per scoured pound. Unless our representatives at Washington are kept advised regarding the feelings of those at home, there is certain to be a harmful effect from the efforts being made by those located nearer to the scene of action.

### SHEEP RAISERS CREDIT

The Wool Grower has had a good deal to say about the need of adequate financial service for sheep and cattle raisers. We have claimed and will continue to claim that the business merits, and in the national interest should have permanent alterations in facilities for use of borrowed capital, particularly in regard to life of loans

and appraisals of breeding stock.

The financial question is the big concern in the minds of stock raisers today. It will rightfully occupy our attention until we have obtained all possible relief for the present and greater security for the future. While we are working for modifications in national laws and in practice governed by the principles of those laws there have been some happenings that have done a great deal to discredit the sheep man's credit. We refer to known cases of deceit and fraudulent misrepresentation as to location and numbers of sheep included as collateral for loans. Even though obtainable legal evidence of such acts is not sufficient to support proper criminal prosecution, the fact that a bank or a loan company has suffered loss through dishonest handling of collateral travels very fast and is seriously received in the offices of men already worried over the unpreventable loss in value of the stock that secures the loans made from the funds of confiding depositors.

There has been criticism of over free lending and of high interest rates. But nothing can effect in any way a borrower's full liability and moral obligation to honorably do his best to fulfill every contract entered into for repayment of borrowed money. Confidence is the basis of money lending. It vanishes when there is any departure from strictly honorable dealing. Assets avail nothing if question exists as to the would-be borrower's character and readiness to go to his extreme limit in fulfilling his contracts. A few known cases of fraud practiced by stock raising borrowers will destroy more confidence in a day than the faithful performance of the honest 99 per cent can build up in a year.

It well behooves stockmen as individuals and as organizations to furnish every assistance in securing conviction of perpetrators of fraud in loan transactions.

The paper of Western banks and loan companies is largely sold to or discounted by Eastern banks whose officers know nothing of sheep or cattle raising but who have confidence in the financial standing and the integrity of those through whom they receive the notes:

The Sixth Annual Salt Lake

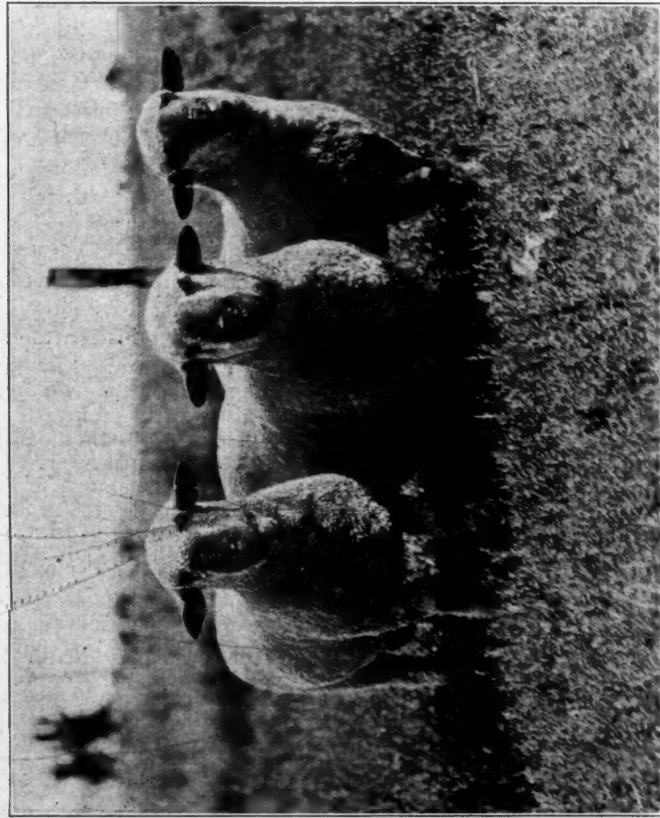
# RAM SALE

August 29, 30, 31, 1921

STATE FAIR GROUNDS  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

## The Sheep Event of the Year

Come and study the results of the life work of America's foremost improvers of sheep. See what breed and flock produces the type to help you secure more net profit from your range.

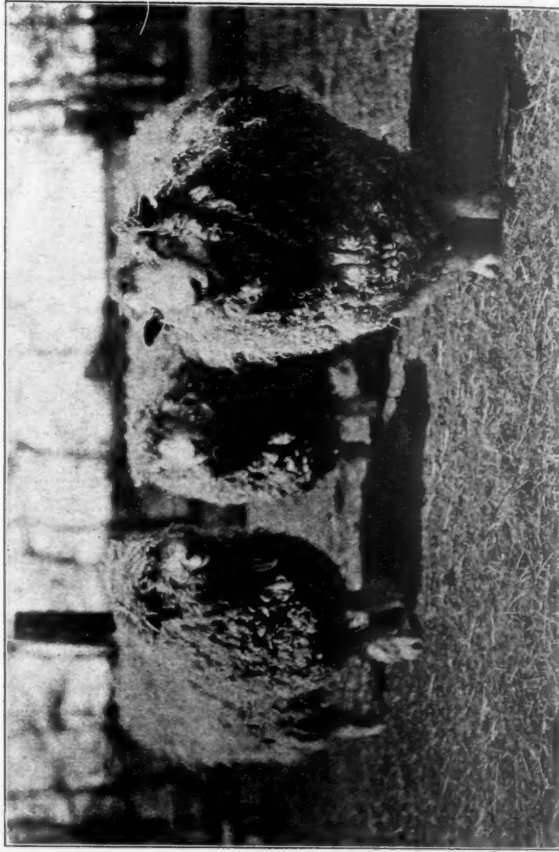


Hampshire Rams consigned by Butterfield Live Stock Company.

## Hampshires

560 Range Rams, 80 Stud Rams, 125 Registered Ewes; Bred and Consigned by Butterfield, Blastock, Edwards, Finch, Howland, Knollin & Hansen, Laidlaw, Nebeker, Selway & Gardiner, Detweiler.

**Rams Direct From the Range  
For Service on the Range**



Richly bred Lincolns entered by S. W. McClure, Bliss, Idaho.

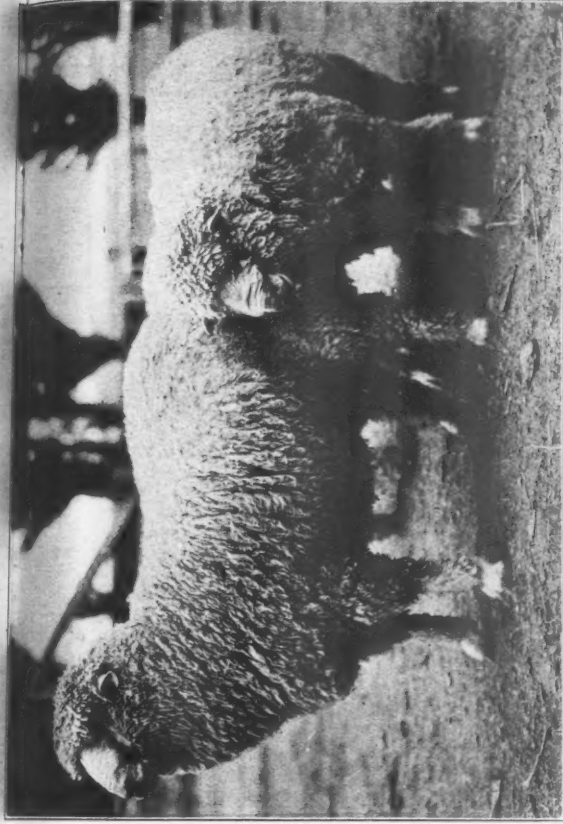
# Rambouillets

1000 Range Rams, 200 Stud Rams, 175 Registered Ewes; Bred and offered by Butterfield, Bullard, Bureau of Animal Industry, Barton, Cunningham, Clark, Candland, Craig, Day, Hobbs, Gillett, King, Knollin, Madsen, Moran, Merritt, Neilsen, Olsen, Pendleton, Quealy, Rigby, Seely, McClure.



One of the Bullard Stud Rams.

Richly bred Lincolns entered by S. W. McClure, Bliss, Idaho.



A sample of John Currans' 50 Lincoln-Rambouillet Cross-bred Rams.

450 Lincolns, Cotswolds, Corriedales, Panamas, Columbias and Crossbreds

From flocks of McClure, Knollin, Curran, Ellenwood & Ramsay, Butterfield, Cunningham Sheep Co., Bureau of Animal Industry, F. S. King Bros. Co., Laidlaw & Brookie.

One-half rate for return fare if 250 certificates presented from Utah, Idaho, Colorado, Montana, Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, Wyoming, Washington, California. Get a certificate when purchasing ticket.

**SHEEPMEN! It Will Pay You To Attend This Sale This Year!**



**W. C. COFFEY, RECENTLY APPOINTED TO THE POSITION OF DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE IN THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA**

Professor W. C. Coffey, vice-president of the National Wool Growers Association has recently accepted the position of executive head of the College of Agriculture in the University of Minnesota. This recognition of ability and opportunity for larger service comes after several years of hard and fruitful work as Professor of Animal Husbandry in the University of Illinois.

In the West Professor Coffey is chiefly known as a world authority on sheep matters and through his appearance at the annual conventions and the ram sales held by the National Wool Growers Association has made a large number of staunch friends. In 1920 he was elected vice-president of the association and we believe that the larger duties he now assumes will not interfere with his visits to the West nor prevent him from continuing to meet and advise with our executive committee.

Professor Coffey is equally well known in Eastern and Central farming states as one qualified to speak on advice upon all phases of sheep husbandry.

Those who have known his work more intimately and enjoyed long personal acquaintance have also known of his fitness as a leader and director of the education of young men, based on adherence to high ideals and a devotion to good farming and good citizenship.

**RAILROAD RATES TO CONVENTION AND SALE**

After the announcement on the front cover of this issue was printed word was received that the certificate plan of reduced fares would be in effect from Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, California, Nevada, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Utah, Wyoming and Washington, 250 certificates must be turned in to obtain reduced return fares. Get a certificate with your ticket.



W. C. Coffey.

**A SHIPPER'S VIEW ON THE COMMISSION QUESTION**

The Wool Growers Commission Company is in operation and has convinced the old line companies that it means business. There are no personalities in this matter unless the different houses make it personal, and if growers feel that the present rate charged by exchange members is excessive the fact that we disagree with them should not be charged against us. We are in the best position to judge what the traffic will bear, and we propose to be the judges. I like the position of certain growers who, by reason of their financial connections, are unable to patronize this company, but who come out flat-footed and state that they cannot send their sheep to us but are for us, from hell to breakfast. If you cannot boost, don't knock, and don't let your shippers knock a concern which has reduced exchange rates very materially, anything to the contrary notwithstanding.

Don't believe what every Tom, Dick and Harry says about this company. You are not past the stage of handling a prod-pole yet so grab the rail of the caboose on your next shipment and go down the line. You will meet many

old friends, you will meet men you are pleased to call your friends, you will meet men who went up with you and are ready to go down with you, and you will meet others who went up but are unwilling to come down.

This Chicago lamb market is a product of comparatively recent years, the originators of the fat lamb shipments are men still to be reckoned with in the affairs of our country. In Idaho the Goodings and McMillans are still with us; Ormsby and Bacon, Van Deusen and Little are still names to be reckoned with in wool and mutton-growing circles.

The selling end finds "A. J." on the firing line as of old; Clay R., Bill Smith, Harry Black and others still try to make the market a quarter higher, some times, and mostly with little success.

Go down the line and meet those men. The main trouble is we have drifted too far apart. You may not have the same viewpoint, but an exchange of opinions may be helpful.

You will find an army of men dependent on your business, the cattle business and the hog business. You will find why the exchange sets the price at what is in our opinion an unreasonable figure, and, if enough of us bear down on the statement that it is "root hog or die" with our business a few shafts of light may strike through the impenetrable darkness of exchange opinion.

This much should be said. The Wool Growers Commission Company is a child of necessity, but a husky youngster as even its enemies will testify, and the fight will not end by a towel being thrown into the ring.

Wool growers—we cannot let this company go under, we must make it the dominant marketing commission house. We can to a considerable extent control the distribution of shipments if handled through one firm, and do away with the gluts hitherto experienced.

The packers are giving us an equal deal with other houses, let's see this through.

Hugh Sproat.



H. F. Hudspeth

Our industry has suffered another loss in the death of Mr. H. F. Hudspeth, president and manager of the Grand Canyon Sheep Company, Flagstaff, Arizona.

Mr. Hudspeth was born September 19, 1878, in Bandera County, Texas. He was killed instantly on May 2, 1921, when the automobile which he was driving was struck by a Santa Fe train at Nelson, Arizona. Mr. Hudspeth came to Arizona in the spring of 1906 and during his residence here was employed by and associated with some of the most successful wool growers in the state, among them being the late Edgar T. Smith and the late C. C. Hutchinson. Upon the death of the latter, Mr. Hudspeth became president and general manager of the Grand Canyon Sheep Company, one of the largest breeders of Rambouillet sheep in the Southwest.

In Mr. Hudspeth's death the sheep industry has lost one of its most valuable breeders and a good business man. He was widely known throughout the state and highly respected by his associates.

### ROSCOE A. WOOD

All readers of the Wool Grower will be saddened to learn of the death of Roscoe A. Wood at his home at Douglas, Wyoming, on August 6th. Mr. Wood had been in his usual health until late in July when his physicians advised an operation for an acute internal condition. Following the operation Mr. Wood's brother wrote that the family had strong hopes for complete recovery. Their hopes were not realized.

News of Mr. Wood's death arrived just as this issue was going to press. A more extended statement regarding his work and the position he had earned in the world of agriculture will appear next month.

### MR. ARTHUR W. COFFIN

The death of Arthur W. Coffin, senior member of the firm of Coffin Brothers, at his home in Yakima, Washington, has removed one of the most prominent, though possibly one of the least advertised, wool growers in the state of Washington. Its immediate cause was a stroke of paralysis, though he had been in ill health for some time past and had been treated at local and Seattle hospitals. Mr. Coffin was born in 1857 at Stockton, California, removed to The Dalles, Oregon, about 1870, and there developed business interests which brought him to Yakima about 1895 and which have largely centered there of late, although extending to several portions of the state. He was president of the Coffin Brothers and vice-president of the Coffin-Babcock Land & Live Stock Company, as well as being a partner in a number of other live stock, farming and business enterprises. He is survived by his wife, by his daughter, Mrs. Forrest Wenner, and her two children, and by his brother, H. Stanley Coffin, and family. A third brother, Lester Coffin, who was also interested in the business, died some time ago.

### STOCKMEN MEET IN FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA

Believing that they have much in common and that more can be accomplished through co-operation the members of the Arizona Wool Growers Association and the Arizona Cattle Growers Association met in joint session in Flagstaff, Arizona, on July 8 and 9. Matters of mutual interest and concern, such as the tariff, freight rates, commission charges, grazing fees, taxes, forest and Indian reserves, trails and driveways, grazing lands and live stock loans were discussed and considered in detail.

The big public meeting of the two associations was held on July 8 with three hundred leading stockmen and business men from all sections of the state in attendance, Hon. Hugh E. Campbell, president of the Arizona Wool Growers Association presiding. Addresses were made by M. I. Powers, president of the Arizona Central bank, Flagstaff; Henry G. Boice, cattleman, San Carlos; A. A. Johns, wool grower, Prescott. The annual report of President Campbell was then read by the secretary of the Wool Growers Association, Judge F. W. Perkins. This report was a strong and concise statement of what sheepmen in Arizona have had to contend with during the past year. In part it said:

"The low prices we get for wool, mutton and pelts and beef and hides are entirely out of proportion to the high cost of production. Yet the retail prices of meats, woolens and leather goods are still high. Wages though somewhat reduced, are still unwarranted to justify us in carrying on our industry.

"The Emergency Tariff bill has been of no special benefit to us. It was so long a time in being passed that it gave an opportunity for the country to be flooded with many million pounds of foreign wool and frozen beef and lambs.

"Before the late war our sheep were valued for taxing purposes at \$2.50 per head, and then at \$3 a head. As values of property inflated and the pur-

chasing power of money deflated, the state tax commission put the assessed value of sheep up to \$8 a head. We believe the commission never was warranted in raising the value to that amount.

"Our sheep are assessed at \$8 and taxable sheep have not for a long time brought near that amount on an average and are not now and have not for more than a year netted an average of \$3 a head."

Continuing the report told of the many unsuccessful efforts that have been made to have the tax rate on sheep reduced, and that the matter would again be referred to the county assessors, county supervisors and the state tax commission at their annual meeting to be held in Nogales, Arizona, beginning on July 25.

Others matters taken up in Senator Campbell's report were the trespass cases now pending in Yavapai County against a number of sheep owners, forest reserves, public driveways, commission rates on the sale of sheep and wool, especial emphasis being given to the latter which is excessive.

Following the reading of President Campbell's report, the meeting was addressed by E. H. Crabb, president of the Arizona Cattle Growers Association; C. S. Brown of the State Farm Bureau; C. B. Heineman of the Institute of American Meat Packers; Rudolph Kuchler, state land commissioner; M. T. Treleaven, general live stock agent of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway; W. G. Galbraith, attorney general for Arizona; Governor Thos. E. Campbell, and D. R. Johnson of the corporation commission.

Letters and telegrams were read from United States Senators Ralph H. Cameron and Henry F. Ashurst, representative in Congress, Carl F. Hayden; Henry Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture; Albert B. Fall, Secretary of Interior; Victor Culberson of the Tariff Commission, and Colonel Greeley and Will C. Barnes of the Forest Service. All of the foregoing had been invited to attend the meeting but were unable to be present.

On Saturday, July 9, the Arizona Wool Growers Association held its reg-

ular annual meeting. The sheep and wool situation having been quite thoroughly discussed at the joint convention the day before the meeting was given over mostly to routine matters, such as reading the minutes, balancing accounts, collecting dues and the election of officers.

There being a number of state and Federal officers in attendance, President H. E. Campbell asked each of them to address the meeting. Those who responded were Rudolph Kuchler, state land commissioner; Ernest N. Hall, state auditor; Loren Vaughn, corporation commissioner; D. R. Johnson, rate clerk for the corporation commission; F. C. W. Pooler, district forester; D. A. Gilchrist, and M. E. Musgrave of the Biological Survey.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, H. E. Campbell, Flagstaff, (re-elected); vice-presidents, C. E. Burton of Ash Fork and James Scott of Pinedale; secretary-treasurer, F. W. Perkins of Flagstaff, (re-elected); executive committee, (also to act as committee on marketing and freight rates), H. E. Campbell, F. W. Perkins, John Hennessy, A. J. LeBarron, all of Flagstaff; E. H. Duffield of Cooley, and Harry J. Gray of Williams. State advisory board: John Hennessy of Flagstaff, Chas. E. Howard of Phoenix, Colin Campbell of Ash Fork, James Scott of Pinedale, E. A. Sawyer of Winslow. Coconino Forest advisory board: John Hennessy, George Campbell, A. J. LeBarron and D. W. Campbell. Tusayna Forest advisory board: C. E. Burton, Louis Charlebois, F. D. Bly, Colin Campbell and C. E. Howard. Prescott Forest advisory board: H. E. Campbell, Colin Campbell, A. J. LeBarron, John Hennessy and W. W. Perkins. Sitgreavse Forest advisory board: E. A. Sawyer, E. B. Newman, Fred Purcell, G. H. Wilbur and James Scott. Apache Forest advisory board to be chosen later. Committee on legislation: Louis Charlebois, A. A. Johns and James Scott.

The resolutions adopted heartily approved the address of President H. E. Campbell of the Wool Growers Asso-

ciation read at the joint meeting the day before, commended him on his zeal and efficiency in behalf of the sheep industry, especially endorsed his recommendations on pending legislation in Congress regarding sheep and wool, on the valuation of sheep for tax purposes, on forest and Indian reservation grazing fees, on freight rates, on high wages, on commission rates at the public markets for sheep, on commission rates for wool and on the Truth-in-Fabric Bill. It was also recommended that in accordance with his suggestion a committee be appointed to consider the subject of providing a selling agency for feeder lambs, and placing a competent man in charge. The president was thanked for his work in connection with the trespass cases now pending in Yavapai County against members of the association, and the association complimented on its secretary who was thanked for devoted services in behalf of the best interests of the wool growing industry in Arizona.

The resolutions approved and adopted at the joint meeting of the sheep and cattle growers associations are as follows:

1. As three Arizona bankers are to be appointed to place loans in this state from the \$50,000,000 live stock pool which is necessary to the live stock industry of the state, requested that one be from the southern part of the state, one from the central and one from the northern.

2. Request adjournment of Congress be postponed until the recent measures affecting live stock are acted upon.

3. Authorizing the presidents of the two associations to study co-operative marketing possibilities and to formulate such marketing systems within the state that may be found practical in the selling of live stock and other products.

4. As prices of live stock on foot have declined approximately 60 per cent in twelve months, consumers of the state are to be asked through chambers of commerce, and other civic bodies to demand a corresponding reduction in retail prices of meat and meat products and to insist that Arizona products, all things being equal, be given preference so that the industry will benefit and the money be kept in circulation in the state.



5. Asks our Congressmen to use every effort to have present tariff bill changed to afford protection to hides, pelts, dressed meats, and wools.

6. Urges upon county boards of supervisors all possible economies in the coming year and that expenditures not immediately necessary be deferred until times are better.

7. Asks Arizona tax commission meeting at Nogales this month to reduce tax valuations of live stock at least 50 per cent and on grazing lands 25 per cent, and that in future the commission meet more centrally to make it easier for taxpayers to attend.

8. Urging the state land board to replace at earliest possible date the \$692,932.60 received as interest on deferred payments of state land sales and recently reported to the state land commissioner to have been improperly segregated and loaned along with the money received as payment on principal.

9. Thanks to the railroads in the state for timely relief last spring by reduction of rates and for excellent service given the live stock men during the emergency.

10. As it is necessary for live stock men to know freight rates in advance so that contracts may be made and there is a great amount of stock to be moved this fall, requests present emergency rates be extended to November 15.

11. Freight rates on live stock unreasonable and prohibitive and action of American National Live Stock Association in instituting hearings before the Interstate Commerce Commission to revoke the last 35 per cent increase in freight on live stock in the western group and of 25 per cent on the Mountain Pacific group is heartily endorsed.

12. Greatly detrimental to the ranges north of the Colorado River to permit sheep and cattle from Utah to graze there and asks state legislature to prohibit or regulate.

13. Endorses French-Capper Truth-in-Fabric Bill.

14. Asks Department of Agriculture and Congress to appropriate the amount requested by the Biological Survey for carrying on work of destroying predatory animals and rodents.

15. Thanks citizens of Flagstaff, committee on entertainment, manager of Orpheum theater, musicians and Rebekahs for helpful courtesy during convention.

16. Thanks state live stock agent of the A., T. & S. F. Railroad for his years

of invaluable service to state live stock interests.

17. National forests are in a deplorable condition because of drought, lack of feed and water, causing numerous losses of live stock, and the forester is requested to reduce grazing fees on all classes of live stock in Arizona for 1921 and extend time of payment of grazing fees for 1921 season from September 1 to December 1, 1921.

18. Assumption by Interstate Commerce Commission of jurisdiction over intra-state as well as interstate rates unwarranted and unconstitutional encroachment upon rights and powers of the states and likely to handicap industries and commerce; and asks that the transportation act of 1920 be at once amended to assure to the individual states absolute control over intrastate rates.

### THE SHEEP AND GOAT SHOW TO BE A FEATURE AT THE STATE FAIR OF TEXAS, OCTOBER 8 TO 23, 1921

Preparations to stage the greatest sheep and Angora goat show in the history of the State Fair of Texas are well under way.

It will be recalled that a new commodious sheep and goat barn, modern in every respect, with a capacity of 800 sheep and goats was completed in time for the 1920 fair. This building is well ventilated and lighted and affords comfortable quarters for the sheep and goats. A judging ring, 30 feet by 42 feet, is located in the center of the building and prospective exhibitors of sheep and goats will be pleased to learn that they will not have to hold their sheep and goats out in the sun and rain to have them judged as has been the case on some previous occasions.

The State Fair is this year offering \$5,000 in cash premiums in the sheep and goat department. In addition several of the sheep registry associations are offering liberal breed association specials to be paid to meritorious winners registered in the respective associations. The American Rambouillet Breeders Association is offering a special purse of \$300. This amount, in addition to the \$708 offered by the State Fair of Texas in the Rambouillet

classes, makes a very attractive premium and should serve to stimulate interest among the leading Rambouillet breeders of the United States. Prof. W. C. Coffey has been invited to make the awards in the sheep classes and Mr. Bob Davis, president of the American Angora Goat Breeders' Association has consented to pass on the Angora goats.

Prospective sheep and goat exhibitors should not delay in communicating with Secretary W. H. Stratton of the State Fair of Texas, Dallas, Texas, requesting reservations for the desired number of pens.

All entries in the sheep and goat division will be closed on September 26. Therefore prospective exhibitors should not fail to have their entries in the hands of the secretary in ample time.

### WOOL FREIGHT RATES UNDER CONSIDERATION

The question of freight rates on wool is being made the sole subject of hearings ordered by the Interstate Commerce Commission at the following points on the dates shown: Boise, Idaho, August 1st; Denver, Colorado, August 5th; Salt Lake City, Utah, August 8th; Los Angeles, California, August 10th; San Francisco, California, August 12th; Portland, Oregon, August 15th; Spokane, Washington, August 17th; Helena, Montana, August 19th.

The hearings are in connection with the application of railroads to lower the freight rate on wool shipped to Eastern states from Pacific Coast ports from \$1.66 to \$1.35 per hundred. This is stated to be for the purpose of enabling the roads to secure a share of the wool now going by steamships through the Panama canal at a rate of 90 cents per hundred when baled and \$1.25 in sacks.

At the initial hearings at Boise on August 1st, representatives of the railroads showed that the change for which the approval of the Commission is being sought also included some slight alterations in rate from interior points as brought about by the addition of existing rates to the coast points to the proposed transcontinental rate. For Huntington, Oregon, and other points at the same distance from the coast the reduction would amount to as much as 60 cents per hundred

and would grade down until no change whatever would apply at points as far inland as eastern Idaho.

The hearings, as based upon the applications before the Commission, are largely technical in character, hinging upon the fourth section of the transportation act which allows the Commission to grant a lower rate for a longer haul than for a shorter one only when such lower rate is "reasonably compensatory" to the roads. At the close of the hearings at Salt Lake City, on August 8th, the roads had not submitted any statement as to whether they claimed a rate of \$1.35 from San Francisco to be a profitable one.

At the Boise hearings the shipper's case was handled under the direction of the Public Utilities Commission,

with Mr. Hugh Sproat as principal witness for the wool growers. At Denver, on August 5th, there was a very small representation of wool growers but some legal and technical phases of the rate structure were argued.

At Salt Lake the shippers' interests were presented by representatives of the National Wool Growers Association, the Utah Wool Growers Association, and the Utah Bankers Association. It is expected that the Commission may render its decision upon the carriers' application by October first. It is not now possible to know just how a decision will affect rates from interior points or whether wool growers will need to institute further proceedings in order to obtain a bearable freight rate on next season's wool.

New York in 84 hours. The new rate is \$5.67 per 100 pounds, bringing the cost per car, including icing, up to \$1,247 to New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore. We are hoping the business will reach sufficient proportions to make it possible to run solid meat trains out of Spokane. We can do this when ten cars are offered and it will cut the rate materially.

"Only 260 lambs can be shipped, live weight, in a double-deck freight car," said R. A. Balch yesterday. "By express we can ship 500 carcasses in a car. The freight rate was \$380 a car to Chicago. On top of that was a shrinkage, a total loss of about ten pounds to a lamb, and the cost of sending a man with the shipment. Under the new plan the producer has two options. He can sell in Spokane, get his money and go home with little loss of time, or he can take them on East if he thinks the price will be better there.

"This plan will tend more than ever to establish Spokane as a live stock center. Spokane is the logical place for slaughtering these lambs, as most of them are within 12 hours of the city."

Following the arrival at Eastern markets the six cars of Western dressed lambs, Mr. R. A. Balch of the Rothrock Land and Live Stock Company of Spokane, advised the Wool Grower that the shipments were in transit from four to five days and arrived in first-class condition. Mr. Balch states that it has been conclusively demonstrated that Western slaughter for shipment to the East is feasible. Swift & Company killed 6,000 head at Portland during the week commencing July 18th and of this number 4,000 were shipped to Eastern points. "Authorities agree that Spokane is better situated to get large numbers of lambs than any other Northwest point, because of its location on the main line of four railroads and between points of origination of lambs and the Chicago market."

#### SECRETARY OF WYOMING WOOL GROWERS IN CHARGE OF NATIONAL BUREAU

Mr. J. B. Wilson, Secretary of the Wyoming Wool Growers Association, has been in charge, since June, of the office and the work of the National Sheep and Wool Bureau. His new duties have necessitated Mr. Wilson's residence in Chicago from which place he has directed the widespread and active work of the National Bureau in connection with the French-Capper "Truth in Fabric" law.

## Shipping Carcasses Instead of Live Lambs

Washington Lamb Raisers Make Test Shipment of Carcasses—Results Justify Extensive Western Slaughter

It has commonly been claimed that the shipment of lambs on foot to Eastern points was the most economical way of delivering the meat to the cities in which it is largely consumed. The expense of feeding en route, the attendant's expenses and the heavy shrink have all been said to be counterbalanced by the superior appearance and value of the carcasses when offered to the retail butchers shortly after killing. The purchases made in Chicago for shipment to Atlantic Coast slaughter houses have appeared to show the existence of a business advantage in that practice.

Washington wool growers are responsible for an effort to test fairly the possibility of effecting a large saving by slaughtering at home and shipping carcasses in a chilled (not frozen) condition to far Eastern markets. It is reported that Swift and Armour have both handled such shipments during July.

According to the Spokane Spokesman-Review, it is expected that 100,000 lambs will be shipped from Washington ranges as carcasses instead of on foot.

"The Washington Wool Growers Association some time ago named a committee to take the matter up with the railroads and the packers. It included J. F. Sears of Prosser, secretary of the association; A. R. Bohoskey, a sheepman, who also acts on the

Portland stock yards board; R. A. Balch and Peter McGregor of Spokane.

"Through the activities of Mr. Bohoskey the Swift plant at North Portland entered into the scheme to kill its lambs at North Portland. Its capacity is 10,000 to 15,000 a week. It has done the experimental work and has demonstrated conclusively that lambs can be killed in the West and the meat delivered in prime condition in New York and other Eastern markets.

"Through the co-operation of E. E. Flood, vice-president of the Exchange National Bank, the committee secured the assurance of co-operation from Armour & Company. The Spokane plant can handle 1,000 lambs a day, with the present capacity and this can be increased to 2,500 if the business warrants it. The company killed two cars of lambs yesterday, the first under the scheme, and the chilled lamb will go East by express next Monday night. W. H. Ude, general agent of the Northern Pacific in Spokane, took the matter up with J. G. Woodworth, vice-president in charge of traffic, and Howard Elliott, chairman of the board, on their recent visit to Spokane, with the result that, effective July 5, a new rate on chilled lamb moving by express was authorized.

"We will send the meat East every night in refrigerator cars on the North Coast Limited," said Mr. Ude yesterday. "This will give a 60-hour run to Chicago and we will have a man at Chicago to arrange immediate switching to another fast train for New York, thereby delivering Spokane lamb in

# July Record of Lamb and Sheep Markets

## CHICAGO

### The First Week

The first week of the month delivered 146,000 head at the principal markets, a small volume that was effective in lifting the trade out of the June rut. Chicago had only 40,000 including stuff direct to packers and the dressed market, relieved of supply pressure, made a spurt. Shipper competition made a lively market on good Western lambs, although second cuts did not respond, country demand for feeders failing to develop, enabling packers to buy half-fat lambs at their own figures. Packers anticipated a run the following week and resisted the rise strenuously. They failed to prevent a general appreciation of 75 cents to \$1.25 per hundredweight on lambs, other than feeder grades, sheep and yearlings gaining anywhere from 50 cents to \$1. The advance carried choice Western lambs to \$11.75, a good kind going to packers at \$11. The best natives sold at \$10.75 and cull natives that had to be content with \$4.50@5.50 on the June break, advanced to \$5.50@6.25. Choice handyweight yearlings made \$8.75, dry feds being quoted at \$9. Best light ewes sold at \$5; heavy native ewes largely at \$3@3.50. Some Western wethers, mostly two-year-olds, with a generous percentage of breakers, but heavy hided, sold at \$5.75.

### The Second Week

The second week brought the expected increase in supply, turning the tide in the buyer's favor. Jersey City had a full house, breaking prices there and shutting off shipping demand. Fat lambs broke 75 cents to \$1 per hundredweight, culls holding about steady. Yearlings broke 25 cents, although few were available, sheep holding strong to 25 cents higher as the market was all but bare of aged stock. Slight revival of feeder demand advanced lambs of that grade about 25 cents, killers outbidding country buyers for many of the lambs in thin flesh. On Monday, \$11.75 was paid for a few choice lambs,

but \$11 was the limit on the best Wednesday, \$10.65 taking the same kind Friday. The native contingent carried a large percentage of culls and common stuff. Best natives sold at \$10 on Friday, against \$11 on Monday, most of the desirable natives going to packers through the week at \$9.50@10.25, with \$6 the popular price for culls. The few light yearlings available sold at \$8.50, desirable 90-pound Oregons going at \$7, and two-year-old Oregon wethers at \$6.40@6.50, the throw-out going at \$4.50. No mature ewes passed \$5, but this price was paid without haggling for choice natives and light Westerns, most of the heavy and medium ewes realized \$3@4.25; culls \$2 or less. Desirable feeding lambs earned \$6.75@7, aged feeding ewes sold around \$2 and native ewes fit for breeding purposes at \$4@4.50.

### The Third Week

During the third week a general readjustment of values was effected as the different markets had been out of line during the period of chaos. Chicago broke 25@50 cents on Monday, but in the subsequent readjustment regained the loss, feeding lambs and fat sheep gaining about 25 cents before the end of the week. The proportion of range stock increased and as most of the natives were nondescripts and trash, Westerns dominated the market. On Thursday six loads of choice 74-pound lambs sold at \$10.90 with 240 out, bulk of the good Western lambs selling during the week at \$10.25@10.80, with throw-outs largely at \$6@8. With the exception of a couple of sales to city butchers at \$10.25, no native lambs passed \$10, packers buying that kind mainly at \$9.25@9.75, with culls largely at \$6 and trash as low as \$4. No choice yearling wethers arrived, a few natives making \$8. Desirable light Western wethers sold at \$6.25@6.60, and choice light native and Western ewes at \$5@5.25, but \$3.50@4.75 took most of the female stock, weight taking a severe penalty. Country buyers were unable to pay over

\$7 for thin Western lambs, a number of loads going to feeders at \$6.75@7 and one load at \$7.15, killers taking nearly all the Westerns in feeder flesh selling above \$7. Breeding ewes were strong at \$3.50@6.50, from plain full mouths to best yearlings, bulk of the desirable natives, ranging from four-year-olds down, selling at \$4.50@5.50.

### The Last Week

The last week of July registered a glut of native lambs at Jersey City and other Eastern markets, causing sharp declines everywhere. Although receipts at Western markets were light the Eastern glut exerted the usual demoralizing influence. Toward the end of the week improvement was noted but fat Western lambs closed 25@50 cents lower for the week, native lambs 25 cents lower, sheep holding about steady. Revival of country demand advanced feeding lambs about 50 cents. By the close, \$10.25 was the limit on such choice Western lambs as made \$10.80 the previous week. Quality of the Western run, was good, necessitating light sorting, bulk of the desirable range lambs selling at \$9.50@10.40 during the week. Killers paid \$7.50@8 for second cuts of Western lambs, forcing feeders to pay \$7.30@7.60 for the few loads they took out. Native lambs were the usual indifferent lot carrying long cull ends. The top on natives was \$10, bulk of the desirable kinds selling at \$9@9.50, and culls at \$5.50@6, with some little thin stuff down to \$4.50. Yearlings were in limited supply, selling mainly at \$7.50@8. A ten-car string of Montana wethers was distributed over the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday period selling at \$6@6.50, mostly with 50 outs to the car, the best throw-outs going to the killers at \$5.25, the residue to yard traders at \$5 down, one deck going to a feeder at \$4.50. Few fat ewes were available, \$3.50@4.75 taking most of the natives with choice light ewes at \$5@5.25 and a few choice Western at \$5.50.

J. E. Poole.



**OMAHA**

Lamb trade at Omaha during the past month has shown no very great change, aside from the normal and rather moderate fluctuation in prices, and the month closed with fat lambs selling at substantially the same figures noted on the first of July. Demand during the past four weeks has been rather quiet, with supply smaller than a year ago and with most of the offerings coming from range districts of Idaho, Oregon and Nevada.

Receipts for the month amounted to 207,288 head, as compared with a July run of 274,863 head last year. More than half of the supply lately has consisted of offerings fat enough for slaughter.

Packers are now buying best Western lambs around \$9.85@10.15, with good natives up to \$9@9.25. Packer sorts are quoted on down to \$7 and less.

Only a limited part of the receipts lately have been made up of fat sheep and the relatively small supply has caused a stronger tendency to values. Fat ewes are about 75 cents higher for the month with Westerns and yearlings showing a proportionate advance. Good killing ewes are worth up to \$5, aged wethers up to \$5.75, and fat, handy range yearlings up to \$6.75@7.

The movement of feeding sheep and lambs to cornbelt pastures and feedlots has not yet attained much volume but tone to demand suggests a little improvement in the trade and desirable thin lambs are starting to move rather freely. Buyers are much more conservative than a year ago, however, and the month's outbound movement shows a considerable decrease. Only 30,882 sheep and lambs were sent to the country during July from this market as compared with an output of 103,530 head a year ago. Good feeding lambs are now selling at \$7@7.50, with good feeder ewes at \$2.75@3.35.

Current quotations on the various classes of stock are about as follows:  
Fat lambs, Westerns ..... \$9.25@10.15  
Fat lambs, natives ..... 8.50@ 9.25

Feeder lambs .....	6.75@ 7.50
Cull lambs .....	5.50@ 6.75
Fat yearlings .....	5.50@ 6.75
Fat ewes .....	3.25@ 5.00
Feeder ewes .....	2.25@ 3.35
Cull ewes .....	1.50@ 2.50

**KANSAS CITY**

The July sheep market in Kansas City was marked by a sharp rise the fore part of the month and nearly a complete setback to the June closing level for lambs. However, sheep maintained a 50 to 75 cent net advance. There was almost an entire absence of country demand, and while killers had to contend with unusually low average quality they took all the offerings. Though total receipts for the month were about 2,000 less than in the same month last year, killers purchased 15 per cent more last month than in July, 1920. Fully 60 per cent of the month's run was made up of native sheep and lambs. The other 40 per cent included Texas, Arizona, and a few bunches from Idaho. Average prices for the month, especially following the discouraging trade throughout May and most of June, were much better than anticipated. The top price for native lambs was \$10.85, and had choice Western lambs been offered at the high point they would have brought \$11.50 or better. Ewes sold up to \$5.50, and on the close of the month \$5.25 was the top quotation. Yearlings and wethers were very scarce. Good to choice lambs closed at \$9.00 to \$9.75, or only about 25 cents above final quotations in June. Trade in feeding lambs was limited by the small supply of desirable kinds. The only good Westerns here brought \$7.25. Several bunches of breeding ewes brought \$4.00 to \$4.75, but they were not strictly choice. Both the feeder and breeder of sheep in the corn belt seem to be in a position to start buying as soon as the run of Western sheep assumes definite proportions. Expressed opinion among most feeders is that they will buy at the principal markets this year instead of contracting for delivery at any certain period. July

receipts in Kansas City were 93,974, or about 2,000 less than in July last year, and the smallest in any July in several years past.

**DENVER**

The large decrease which sheep receipts at Denver show since the first of the year, compared with those of 1920, were materially reduced during the month of July. The official count was 68,753 head as against 47,472 head a year ago. This was caused by the heavy contributions from Western states, and in no possible way could it be traced to early shipments of range stock. A big share of the final shipments of spring lambs found its way to this point. Arrivals from local sections were meager.

While conditions of the trade in general were relatively satisfactory, and daily offerings were absorbed in short order, prices for the month show a reduction. Good lambs sold early in July at \$10.50, but later the market dropped to \$10.25 and at the present time (July 30) good lambs are bringing from \$9.25 to \$9.50. Buyers have shown the greatest desire for lambs of quality, weighing around 74 to 78 pounds. On the commoner kinds, they were a little slow to take hold but at no time did business lag.

Ewes have sold on a noticeably higher basis during July than the previous month. Demand from all sources was strong for old sheep, and the local call was especially keen. The light supplies received were hardly sufficient to satisfy requirements. Best ewes at the high time were quoted at \$5, compared with \$4.25 at the beginning of the month.

W. N. Fulton.

**AUGUST 8TH LAMB MARKET**

A dispatch from the Wool Growers Commission Company at the close of business on Monday, August 8th, stated that Chicago had a top price of \$10.75 for killing lambs with some sales at 10 cents and with feeders as high as \$8.25. Eight cents was paid for feeders at some of the River markets.

## HAY FOR LAMBS AT FEED STATIONS—GRAZING CHARGES

Railroad companies should realize the importance of a fast run to the first feeding station. Lambs are invariably cut out from their mothers the evening before loading, and the chances are they have been off feed for most of that day, as feed around shipping points is generally extremely scarce. This being off feed for practically twenty-four hours before loading makes quite a long fast if good time is not made to the first feeding station.

Feeding yards should at this time feed hay at a price not to exceed \$20 per ton, and should have scales installed so that the shipper can see that he is getting a certain weight, not a guess at a bale weight laid in sometime the summer before.

Baled hay of first class quality is being put on board cars at \$9 to \$10 per car and a price of \$20 should be ample for all purposes, to the grower.

February lambs do well on hay, but will not do well where they have a swimming hole, and a bunch of other lambs rambling around an adjacent feed-lot with only a wire fence between. The average stockyard in the West is not fixed to give the shipper the proper treatment in dry lot feeding.

Lambs will clean up from two to three pounds of dry feed of good quality, preferably good alfalfa hay, in half a day, and hold up well to the next feeding station.

The writer fed hay at Montpelier and Cheyenne. He would do the same again provided he got the kind of hay he wanted. There is any quantity of such hay close to the feeding stations, but he would like to see the hay weighed at a price he could afford to pay and which would leave enough profit to the feed yard companies. Thirty-five dollars a ton is more than reasonably compensatory in his opinion.

At Valley, Nebraska, the three-cent per day rate was still effective, but



A yearling son of Monarch. Consigned by the Bureau of Animal Industry.

certain concessions were given the growers in the timing of stock arriving along in the afternoon, only one day being charged till loading time the next evening though the shipment may have exceeded the twenty-four hours quite considerably. The quiet handling of the shipments at this stop and also at the Kirkland plant should be appreciated by shippers. Failure on the part of the Nebraska feed-yards to reduce their charges to 2 cents per day has been quite disappointing to Western growers. A concession such as above mentioned and a rate of 2 cents for any additional time spent at those points would be accepted as a compromise for the present. The writer questions the ability of the management of any yard outside of Omaha farming the land to any better financial advantage than the above rates would return on the investment.

Wool growers as a class should appreciate the initiative of John McQueen at his Kirkland plant, in making a two-cent rate effective there. We are going to gain nothing unless we hang together, and when we find a man

like McQueen ready to go with us, we should in all fairness go along with him. His only chance to make any return in his investment is by an increased volume of business, and it is up to us to see that he gets it. Any statements to the effect that pasture is not available at Kirkland is propaganda not substantiated by facts.

Boise, Idaho.

Hugh Sproat.

## ENDORSES WOOL GROWERS COMMISSION COMPANY

I believe that sheepmen generally will serve their own interests by consigning their sheep to the Wool Growers Commission Company. I have no criticism to make of other houses, but it was only through Mr. Knollin's action that we were given a chance to obtain good service at a charge that is in line with the existing condition of our business: I am going to ship to the Wool Growers Commission Company.

W. A. Crane.

Herriman, Utah.

## With the Wool Trade

### WOOL AFFAIRS IN BOSTON

#### Selling More Active But "Distress" Sales Retard Prices—Longer Wools Wanted

By Henry A. Kidder

The wool market appears to have reached a new point of departure. The outstanding feature of the present situation is the success attending the July opening of the new spring lines of the American Woolen Company. These were representative of the general lines of the big concern, and covered pretty comprehensively both men's and women's wear. In harmony with the predictions of leading members of the wool trade, prices were in the main about on a level with those made last February and March on the heavyweight lines then shown. In a broad way it may be said that goods in which domestic wool is principally used were practically on the same price level, while goods in which the better grades of Australian wool are used were naturally a little higher.

While goods buyers were disappointed that prices were no lower, and considerable whining was heard from a certain element that can always be depended upon to assume a critical attitude, there is general relief in all sections of the wool industry: First, over the strong stand taken by the American, and which is reasonably certain to be followed by other manufacturers in making their spring openings; and second, that the wool trade has at last something definite on which to base plans for the future. Following the American opening, there was noticeable an immediate access of confidence expressed in the various wool houses, especially those having large interests in the new domestic clip.

New Territory wool has been delayed in arriving from the West, and hence the market has been slow in developing, especially in regard to the matter of prices. The last week in July saw larger receipts and a more confi-

dent feeling than has hitherto been the case. Really, paradoxical as it may seem, there has been developed a cleavage that leaves the situation in the form of two well defined price movements.

First comes the new Territory wool. A very good demand is being built up in this department, especially in clips that show any reasonable percentage of staple. The early shorn wools have been coming in and have attracted favorable attention from manufacturers. This is especially true of the new Texas wool, the clip in that state being said by the experts to average the best for a series of years. Manufacturers have shown great interest in the twelve months' clips, and arrivals of desirable character have met with ready sale. Prices for ten to twelve-months' Texas clips have ranged at 70 to 75 cents clean for the best and 65 to 70 cents for average. For six to eight-months' clips the going price for the best clips has been around 55 to 60 cents clean,

and 50 to 55 cents for less desirable clips.

It is expected that the new Oregon wools will also attract favorable attention when they become available in volume. As the bulk of this year's purchases in that state have been routed via the Panama canal, some delay has been experienced in getting them on the market. In a year when the wool clip is said to be unusually deficient in staple, clips that make any pretense to be anything more than of "clothing" character are quickly snapped up by manufacturers. The states where the experts say the most desirable wools are to be found this year are Texas, Oregon and Montana, buying operations having developed in the three in the order named. Highest price paid for strictly Territory wool this year was around 22 cents, paid in Montana for an occasional choice clip. In that state the bulk of the purchases were made at 19 to 21 cents.

Though it is always difficult to get



One of the 10 head of two-year-old Rambouillet Rams consigned to the Sale by the Butterfield Live Stock Company.



definite information at this end as to clips bought and prices paid in the Territory wool country, and especially so this year, there seems to be a certain amount of truth in the claim that Eastern buyers have been unusually particular in making their purchases. As far as possible they appear to have made a serious effort to select the best clips for their buying operations, leaving the less desirable to come forward on consignment, or to go into the pools. The actual facts in the matter will, of course, be better known later. It is claimed, especially in Montana, that the clips actually taken by Eastern buyers were split about fifty-fifty between actual purchases and consignments.

To return to the suggestion made above, regarding two lines of prices having developed in recent market operations, the weak point in the price fabric is found in the "distress" lots of wool being constantly offered in the Boston market. Very low prices are said to have been made on such lots, manufacturers refusing to operate freely in them, except at material concessions. The way that they are held, whether pledged to banks, or still in the hands of the original owners, makes it certain that a cordial welcome will be given to any suggestion that will wind up the transactions and clear the market of their dead weight.

According to local wool men, these "distress" lots act as a serious drag on the market and make it well-nigh impossible to lift it out of the long time rut. While so much old clothing wool is available at low prices, sellers find it difficult to advance prices for the new clip wools. Each time that a move is made in that direction a large section of the mill buyers is driven to comb the market for cheaper lots, and meet with enough success to justify them in remaining indifferent to the upward trend in new Territory wool, except possibly for lots showing a good percentage of staple.

Recent sales of fine medium clothing Territory wool have been made on the clean basis of 60 to 65 cents for good lots. This is for straight clothing wool

of good character. French combing lots would bring up to 70 cents, and half-blood combing up to 75 cents. On the other hand, average and inferior lots of clothing wool cannot be quoted at over 50 to 55 cents, and many lots of the "distress" wool come under that head. Manufacturers seem to have anticipated their future needs in clothing wools to some extent in recent purchases, though it is not thought that they have covered wholly, or even largely, their probable needs for the coming light-weight season.

When it comes to fine staple wool, the situation is much more uncertain. Practically all the staple in last year's clip has been sold, and this year's clip is widely known to be deficient in that grade. Good lots of graded strictly fine staple are exceedingly scarce. Some experts say that a few thousand pounds would cover everything available. Therefore the tendency is to make up piles containing fine medium and half-blood staple as well as strictly fine staple, and offer it to buyers. Such lots are quoted at around 80 cents, clean. Other lots are held at 85 cents, depending upon fineness and length of staple. It is claimed that a really choice lot of graded Montana fine staple would be worth 90 cents clean, and would easily bring that figure.

Further sales of the three-eighths-blood grade were noted in July, the latest sales being at about 50 to 52 cents for Territory and 26 cents in the grease for high-class Ohio combing. Large sales of both were noted in leading houses. Quarter-bloods have continued to be neglected, though large sales are reported to have been made of old wools, at very low prices, according to current rumors. As low as 35 cents clean is reported to have been accepted for fairly good lots of both 1919 and 1920 wool.

Lots of Australian and other desirable foreign wools that came in before the Emergency Tariff bill went into effect have continued to be taken up by manufacturers, and really good combing Merinos are actually getting scarce. The best of these wools have recently been sold at 90 to 95 cents clean, and

average lots bring 80 to 85 cents. Scoured Cape wools have also sold fairly well during the month, 70 to 75 cents for the best lots, and 60 to 65 cents for less desirable. These prices are for Colonial scoured wools.

Other sales of foreign wools during the month have included good Punta Arenas 50s to 56s at 28 cents, or 50 to 51 cents clean; 300 to 400 bales Colonial scoured Australian clothing wool at 60 to 70 cents clean; 300 to 400 bales fine greasy 64s to 70s at 75 to 85 cents clean; good greasy Capes at 75 to 80 cents for combing and 70 cents for clothing; carbonized foreign at 45 to 55 cents; inferior and stained scoured Capes, some kempy, at 38 to 43 cents; about 1,500 bales fine combing Australian at 90 cents clean for a good lot; and late in the month good lines of super combing 64s to 70s Australian Merinos at 95 cents to \$1 clean, good average for 85 to 90 cents, and inferior combing at 80 cents and topmaking wools at 65 to 70 cents.

During the same period, typical sales of Territory wool have included about 300,000 pounds of three-eighths-blood staple at 50 to 52 cents clean; 50,000 pounds quarter-blood staple at 38 to 39 cents; about 350,000 pounds twelve-months' Texas at 70 cents clean; half-blood staple Territory at 70 to 75 cents; 600 bags Utah wool 22 to 23 cents, or 62 to 65 cents clean; 50,000 pounds graded fine medium Wyoming wool at 65 cents clean; and, as noted above, large lines of Territory clothing at 60 to 65 cents for the best and 50 to 55 cents for inferior.

Though Ohio and other fleece wools have been rather quiet in this market, occasional sales are reported which show a downward tendency in values for most of the month. Reported sales of Ohio wool have included three-eighths-blood clothing at 22½ cents; 50,000 pounds fine unwashed Delaine at 35 cents; 100,000 pounds Ohio fine unwashed clothing at 28 cents; good-sized lots of three-eighths-blood combing at 26 cents, and fine unwashed clothing at 28 cents; several lots of three-eighths-blood combing at 26 cents; good-sized

lots of half-blood clothing at 26 cents and half-blood combing at 29 cents. Very little is being done in Ohio, some sections of the state being well sold, while in others the new clip wools are being held by the growers at prohibitive prices, or are going into the pools.

With practically an assured success for the new light-weight season, continued activity in heavy-weight goods, and no fear of excessive cancellations under present conditions, the wool market is considered to be in excellent shape. Therefore, much impatience is being expressed over the way the tariff matter is being handled in Congress. Though the Fordney bill passed the House by a rousing majority, nobody in the wool industry in the East is satisfied with its provisions, especially with the 35 per cent ad valorem provision, which is said to negative all the protective features contained in other clauses.

Predictions are being freely made in the wool trade that the permanent tariff bill will not become a law before snow flies, that the Senate will tear the House bill all to pieces, and that at the last some compromise may be expected to re-establish the Payne-Aldrich rate of 11 cents a pound on grease wool. Meanwhile, everybody is going forward very cautiously, the speculative element having been pretty thoroughly chastened during the strenuous events of the past year.

### CHICAGO WOOL SALES

Sales effected in Chicago during July include the following:

Fine staple (Soda Springs) at 24 cents  
 Fine staple (Utah), at 25 cents  
 Half blood staple (Idaho), at 25 cents  
 Half-blood clothing (Idaho),  
 at 23½ cents  
 Half-blood clothing (Colorado) at 22 cents  
 Original bags (Utah), 18 to 20½ cents  
 Original bags (Montana), at 25 cents  
 Quarter blood (Indiana), at 20 cents

### OHIO WOOL POOL MAKING SALES

The rush of the harvest season has checked to some extent the heavy consignment of wool to the Ohio Wool Warehouse. Early in July, 6,000 Ohio wool growers had consigned 3,500,000 pounds of wool; Indiana sheepmen had contributed 600,000 pounds, while over 800,000 pounds had been received from eastern Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia at the Wheeling, West Virginia, branch, making a total of nearly 5,000,000 pounds of wool. At least another million pounds is expected. While the demand is not broad, medium wools especially have been moving. Consignors as a rule are urging early sales of their consignments, partly because of the necessity of ready money and partly because of last year's experience. Over \$90,000 worth of stock in the wool warehouse has been sold, leaving \$35,000 yet to be sold before the stock is withdrawn from the market.

### GOVERNMENT WINS TEST CASE ON WAR WOOL PROFITS

Regulations issued in 1918 by the Wool Section of the War Industries Board prescribed the amounts to be made as profits on small clips going into hands of wool dealers by purchase.

Allowance for purchase was necessary in the case of farm clips, most of which were too small for sale on the consignment plan, which was established for range wools.

It was claimed by the government that some dealers had obtained profits on these farm wools above the amount prescribed in the regulations. The government's right to insist upon the return of such profits to be distributed to the farmers whose wool was handled, has been upheld in a case tried in a Michigan court. The following statement was given out by the Department of Agriculture, which assumed the work of the Wool Section following the armistice:

The right of the Federal government to impose certain restrictions with respect to the profits which wool dealers might make on wool handled by them in 1918, when the government took over the year's clip, has

been definitely settled in favor of the government by Judge Sessions in the United States District Court for the Western district of Michigan, at Grand Rapids. The defendant's motion to dismiss the government's case was denied. While this did not involve a large amount, the principle issue is of great importance in view of many cases yet to be prosecuted by the government, some of them involving large sums of excess profits.

To aid in the prosecution of the war the government, in the spring of 1918, took over the wool clip of the season. To make this purpose effective regulations were issued by the wool division of the War Industries Board, requiring dealers who wished to handle wool to obtain permits or licenses. When the War Industries Board was disbanded this work was transferred to the Department of Agriculture. These licenses were, in effect, contracts between the dealers and the government. The regulations also limited definitely the profits which wool dealers might make on all domestic wool handled by them. In the case of country dealers or buyers, such as the one decided by Judge Sessions, this profit was limited to 1½ cents a pound, the whole object being to prevent speculation, and to stabilize the wool market, at a time when it was important to the success of the war that America's army and navy be assured proper clothing.

All except about 60 wool dealers have voluntarily paid over to the government any excess profits made. Among those who did not pay was the defendant in the above-stated case. Judge Sessions declares in his decision that in time of war broad powers are conferred upon the President, both by the Constitution and by standing statutory enactments of Congress, but the President's powers were not necessarily involved. The power of Congress to authorize the action of the War Industries Board, the court said, could not be doubted. With the power conferred upon it by Congress this governmental agency had entered into a contract with the defendant, and the defendant, the court held, was in no position to challenge the right of the Congressional branch of the government to approve and affirm that contract. Congress, the court declared, had approved and affirmed contracts of this kind made by the board through its officers. If the contract was valid in behalf of the government then the government certainly had a right to bring suit in its own courts to enforce its terms. The government was represented by the United States Attorney for the Western district of Michigan, assisted by one of the attorneys in the office of the Solicitor of the Department of Agriculture.

There is a very general sentiment in Idaho that the wages of all sheep labor must soon be cut to \$45 per month. It is generally agreed here that the cut will be made about October first. At \$45 per month, a sheep herder will clear very much more money during the year than the man who owns the sheep. Idaho farmers are figuring on hiring farm labor during the winter at \$30 per month.

Nampa, Idaho. S. W. McClure.

## REPORT OF THE TEXAS RAM SALE

At the second annual Sheep Sale, held at Del Rio on June 21 and 22, and conducted by the Sheep and Goat Raisers Association of Texas, 913 head of sheep were sold at an average of \$35.38. A Texas bred Rambouillet ram, bred by R. E. McWilliams, Talpa, Texas, topped the sale at a price of \$300. This ram was purchased by T. M. Judge of Sabinal, Texas. The highest priced ewe of the sale was a registered Rambouillet bred by Hal Hamilton of Del Rio, Texas. This ewe was purchased by P. C. Witt of Brackettville, Texas, for \$75. Several consignors sold rams, the proceeds going to several of the Del Rio churches and some of them were resold a number of times.

In discussing the sale, Dwight Lincoln, secretary of the American Rambouillet Sheep Breeders Association, and auctioneer of national reputation, who cried the Del Rio sale, stated that "the success of this sale was a surprise to everyone. This sale has shown that there is a renewed confidence in the sheep industry." Hon. Jeff B. Moore, former president of the Sheep and Goat Raisers Association, stated, "It exceeded all expectations," Mr. Lee Drisdale of Juno, Texas, and chairman of the sales committee and, by the way, to whom too much credit cannot be given in conducting the sale, stated in commenting on the sale: "Even under the stringent money conditions prevailing over the country the sale has been a success. Consignors to the sale were pleased. The quality of the sheep consigned was good and the Texas sheep breeders are now stocked up with more high bred sheep than ever before." Hon. A. J. Knollin of Chicago was on the ground renewing old acquaintances. Mr. Knollin began his ranching career in Texas a good many years ago and was glad to mingle with his former friends in the Lone Star State. Mr. Knollin was an enthusiastic spectator at the ringside and seemed well pleased in the manner in which the sale was conducted.

The offerings of the various consignors and prices realized thereon were as follows:

	No.	Average Price
Texas Experiment Station, Substation No. 14, Sonora, Texas	18	\$21.61
I. S. Brown, Abilene, Texas	10	24.70
Bullard Bros., Woodland, Calif.	51	78.76
F. W. Clark & Son, Wyoming, New York	35	24.27
R. S. Campbell, Kilgore, Ohio	113	34.29
J. E. Corbett & Son, Bancroft, Idaho	61	27.82
T. L. Drisdale, Juno, Texas	142	31.03
J. L. Gulley, Uvalde, Texas	12	23.00
W. S. Hansen, Collinston, Utah	189	38.97
Hal Hamilton, Del Rio, Texas	20	26.50
T. M. Judge, Sabinal, Texas	5	25.20
Lincoln Bros., Marysville, O.	120	22.91
J. B. Moore & Son, Del Rio, Texas	27	11.79
R. E. McWilliams, Talpa	4	163.00
I. B. Patridge, Perry, N. Y.	37	34.24
Jno. Powell, Menard, Texas	12	25.16
Leslie Reed, Texas	9	22.50
J. E. Smith Livestock Co., Pilot Rock, Oregon	3	29.16
C. V. Wellman & Sons, Perry New York	32	31.09
Whitehead & Wardlow, Del Rio, Texas	10	38.00

The lots obtained by various purchasers and amounts paid therefore were as follows:

### RAMBOUILLETS:

Texas Experiment Station, Substation No. 14, Sonora, Texas	1	\$50.00
H. L. Bridges, Del Rio, Tex.	5	250.00
W. C. Bryson Assn. Ram., Sonora, Texas	1	50.00
Tom Bond, Sonora, Texas	10	750.00
A. A. Baker, Comstock, Texas	10	340.00
Bean & Co., Rock Springs, Tex.	23	1,095.00
Belcher & Stafford, Del Rio, Texas	10	252.50
D. H. Bright, Del Rio, Tex.	1	40.00
J. W. Carruthers, Del Rio, Tex.	25	1,014.00
D. H. Bright, Del Rio, Tex.	1	55.00
Chas. Downie, Sanderson, Tex.	23	1,682.50
T. L. Drisdale, Juno, Tex.	1	65.00
T. L. Drisdale Charity Ram, Juno, Tex.	1	30.00
T. L. Drisdale Assn. Ram, Juno, Texas	1	70.00
Del Rio Wool and Mohair Association, Assn. Ram.	1	50.00
Ira G. Deaton, Juno, Tex.	24	730.00
Fred T. Earwood, Sonora, Tex.	5	250.00
W. F. Easterling, Sonora, Tex.	15	225.00
R. H. Earwood, Sonora, Tex.	10	300.00
E. K. Faucett, Del Rio, Tex.	56	1,884.50
T. B. Gobbie, Carta Valley, Tex.	5	162.50
J. L. Gulley, Uvalde, Tex.	1	22.00
R. M. Hamilton, Del Rio, Tex.	68	2,107.00
R. M. Hamilton Charity Ram	1	55.00
R. M. Hamilton Assn. Ram	1	25.00
W. G. Hutto, Carta Valley, Tex.	3	280.00
C. Hill, Sonora, Tex.	1	35.00
J. G. Hardie, Del Rio, Tex.	10	772.00
Hal Hamilton, Del Rio, Tex.	2	110.00
Hamilton & Miller, Del Rio, Tex.	29	754.00
Lem Henderson, Panhandle, Texas	17	730.00
H. M. Hutchison, Sonora, Tex.	11	575.00
T. M. Judge, Sabinal, Tex.	1	300.00
C. L. Kelly Assn. Ram, Sonora, Texas	1	75.00
C. L. Kelly Charity Ram, Sonora, Texas	1	25.00
T. A. Kincaide, Ozona, Tex.	38	1,872.50

T. A. Kincaide Assn. Ram, Ozona, Tex.	1	50.00
J. M. Lackey & Co. Assn. Ram, Barnhart, Texas	1	25.00
Jno. P. Lee, San Angelo, Tex.	14	168.00
R. H. Martin Assn. Ram, Del Rio, Texas	1	60.00
J. B. Moore & Sons Charity Ram, Del Rio, Tex.	1	35.00
Dan Murrah, Del Rio, Tex.	1	110.00
C. A. Markwood, Del Rio, Tex.	1	112.50
H. J. Y. Mills, Panhandle, Tex.	12	320.00
Clayton Morris, Morris Ranch, Texas	1	45.00
Bedell Moore, Del Rio, Tex.	1	35.00
W. M. Noelke Assn. Ram, Merzon, Tex.	1	50.00
J. L. Pingnot, Cline, Tex.	8	160.00
J. W. Potter, Del Rio, Tex.	200	5,138.00
J. W. Potter Assn. Ram, Del Rio, Texas	1	25.00
J. W. Potter Charity Ram, Del Rio, Tex.	1	20.00
Parker & Stein, Del Rio, Tex.	22	675.00
G. H. & S. H. Parker, Del Rio, Texas	33	842.00
Prosser & Brown, Dryden, Tex.	2	250.00
E. T. Rucker, Del Rio, Tex.	10	285.00
Rhyme Farmer Commission Co. Fort Worth, Tex.	1	50.00
Rhyme Farmer Commission Co. Fort Worth, Tex.	1	25.00
Robert Real, Kerrville, Tex.	1	120.00
Jno. Rosenow, Carter Valley, Texas	7	354.00
Martin Rose, Del Rio, Tex.	5	180.00
Robson Bros., Juno, Tex.	10	445.00
Robson Brothers Charity Ram, Juno, Tex.	1	35.00
Wm. Stafford, Del Rio, Tex.	11	219.00
Geo. M. Thurmond, Del Rio, Texas	10	340.00
Geo. M. Thurmond Assn. Ram, Del Rio, Tex.	1	50.00
Jno. West, Del Rio, Tex.	1	175.00
S. T. Wright, Carter Valley, Texas	10	250.00
Whitehead & Wardlow, Del Rio, Texas	12	640.00
B. E. Wilson, Roosevelt, Tex.	15	890.00
B. E. Wilson Assn. Ram, Roosevelt, Tex.	1	50.00
P. C. Witt, Brackettville, Tex.	3	177.50
Wool Growers Com. Co. Assn. Ram, Chicago, Ill.	1	50.00
J. B. Way Charity Ram, Del Rio, Tex.	1	25.00

### DELAINEs:

Bob Davis, Rio Frio, Tex.	1	20.00
Bob Davis, Rio Frio, Tex.	1	35.00
Frank Cochran, Del Rio, Tex.	12	276.00
Frank Cochran Charity Ram, Del Rio, Texas	1	25.00
Cupples & North, Del Rio, Tex.	3	80.00
Moritz Claudt, Rock Springs, Texas	5	125.00
J. L. Gulley, Uvalde, Tex.	1	42.50
Roy Hudspeth, Sonora, Tex.	23	337.00
C. B. Hudspeth, El Paso, Tex.	49	1,341.00
H. B. Ross, Del Rio, Tex.	2	40.00
J. E. Sellers, Del Rio, Tex.	10	250.00
Smith & Davis, Bracketville, Texas	5	135.06
J. R. Summers & Son Charity, Del Rio, Tex.	1	30.00



## THE CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE SHEEP BUSINESS

(Continued from page 18.)

over loaning. To some extent the freedom with which loans were made was a reflection of practices in other industries affected by war trade. That the error was carried to an extreme in our case cannot be charged wholly to the borrowers. The lenders must have been at fault to at least an equal degree. It is now time to locate and remove the cause of such error in order that the business may be able to stand future strains and in normal times may have the benefit of sound methods.

Loans to sheep raisers are chiefly secured by the sheep themselves and necessarily made for a period of not over six months. In good times the value of the ewe is based on her earning power as a producer of lambs and wool. When lamb and wool markets tumble, confidence is shaken and holders of paper begin to figure the ewe's value in accordance with her immediate carcass value. This greatly depreciates the collateral but is a necessary course so long as such paper is subject to call in six months. To give the live stock producer the same financial service now accorded the merchant or manufacturer, his loans should have a life sufficient to allow a turn over, and a return of the investment from the increase. This is not class legislation. So long as one set of men are given loans under terms that allow a turn over, and another set are denied that service, just so long will we continue to have class legislation that discriminates against those engaged in agriculture.

The question of financing distribution is much the same for wool as for wheat, with the exception that there is, and probably can be, no wool exchange and no dependable quotations for guidance of sellers. Enabling the growers to sell in accordance with their judgment rather than because of necessities is good business for the producer and the consumer. We urge that you

give prominent consideration to wool when formulating your recommendations for financing the orderly distribution of agricultural commodities.

### Establishing a Land Policy.

It was stated that the lack of a government policy toward the use of public lands was responsible in part for the over financing of sheep.

It must first be remembered that our country has never adopted any semblance of a plan for regulating the grazing upon public lands outside National Forests. Use has been permitted but without provision for avoiding abuse or for giving the users any certainty of tenure that would permit them to develop water, erect control fences or invest in stock and equipment from which returns could only be obtained in a number of years.

The possibility of getting into the business with nothing more than a flock of sheep and a camp outfit has led to financing of men practically without capital and without property—frequently not citizens. In good years these parties compete with bona fide stockmen for range feed and for capital. In times of stress they are insecure, and their stock is the first to be forced into liquidation at the slaughter houses with the result of pulling down collateral values and discrediting the standing of all sheep paper.

The unsystematic designation of lands for grazing homesteads has diminished the area of grazing lands and placed many of the homesteads in hands of persons who never can use them for live stock production. It has forced real stock raisers to lease or buy such and other private lands at figures that do not render possible a fair return on the investment. In other words, we have passed the point where we can continue to reduce the size and scope of stock raising concerns in the interest either of the country, or of the so-called "small man" himself.

Today we are unable to ask to be allowed to lease or buy government lands in order to put range stock raising upon a more secure basis. Such requests have been made and refused. The time will return when the stock-

men can stand a proper adjustment of the question and its need is always most pressing called for. Right now a thorough study should be made of the use of public lands and a plan that is fair to all worked out and held ready for adoption as soon as conditions permit.

### Education and Research.

Neither the Department of Agriculture nor the land grant colleges and the experiment stations have ever regarded the range live stock industry as a permanent one calling for the scientific study of its economical problems and for the training and education of those to be engaged therein. True, the regular course of instruction in the agricultural college deals with principles of plant and animal life, but no such effort has been made to provide education for the ranchman's son as for the farmer's son. It is time we recognized the fact that a large part of our Western lands can serve the country only under a range live stock system of use. We have been seriously amiss in our attention to the duty of providing suitable education for this industry. Not more than two Western agricultural colleges pretend to offer courses dealing with the production, preparation and handling of wools, and yet we are facing the day when our industrial independence in war or in peace demands a larger and more intelligent and more scientific domestic wool growing industry.

The problem of experimental study of live stock production upon the range is too broad and too expensive in pursuit to permit of proper attention by a single agricultural experiment station. Some of the contingent and secondary matters are receiving worthy attention.

The Federal Department of Agriculture has made a serious effort to handle this regional, or inter-state question.

At the Jornada Station in New Mexico and the U. S. Sheep Experiment Station in Idaho, facilities have been provided for a practical investigation of production problems of range cattle and of range sheep respectively. These stations have hardly begun their work.

## PRODUCTION COSTS IN COLORADO

Sheep and wool have parted company in this section, but the owner and the wool are fast friends. I understand that there have been some offers of from 11 to 12 cents, but I have heard of no sales to date (June 12). Lambing was on an average and the last band has gone over the trail to the Reserve.

We had to trail our sheep this year on account of the freight rates. The rate is \$48 per car for a 40-mile haul and that is for a narrow gauge car that will carry around 140 ewes and their lambs. There is not much choice, however, between the rail rate and the trail, for the latter is a long county road with scarcely any feed along its sides. When that road is finished, the country is so brushy that we can only see about a hundred head of sheep at a time out of a band of 1,200 ewes and lambs. Then, too, the lambs have to be helped over fallen logs. With it all, it is really a wonder that we get to the Reserve with 20 per cent of our lambs. What is a sheep trail supposed to be?

In regard to cost of production, will say that shearing was at 7 and 8 cents for blades and 10 cents for machines; herders' wages are from \$35 to \$50 per month with board. Camp supplies are down some, but not in proportion to prices for wool and mutton. Salt is even higher. That is costing \$38 per ton. I should like to know what it is costing sheepmen who are nearer Salt Lake.

There is a normal crop of hay this year with a big carry-over from the last two years. The price of hay in April was \$5 per ton.

In these days, one sees owners out with their sheep that scarcely saw them a year ago and one does not hear so much about new automobiles. However, with the lower feed cost and the gradual decrease in cost of other necessities and with the Wool Growers Commission firm, prospects are bright.

Geo. McNeel.

Dolores, Colorado.

## THE WOOL OF COLUMBIA SHEEP

(Continued from page 23.)

the finer wools, except possibly during future great wars. For that reason, I believe the ideal for the Columbias should be three-eighths and half-blood rather than quarter and three-eighths.

In the amount of wool to the fleece the Columbias seem to be doing as well as could reasonably be expected. The question of the ideal size for the Columbia is one that is worthy of a separate paper by someone more familiar with the requirements of the range man and the packer than I am. I believe, however, that with the coming of private ownership of the range lands and the increased use of hay and grain in winter, the rangemen will tend to modify their present demand for extremely large sheep.

I believe that the improvements suggested and others that may need to be made can be brought about by selection within the Columbia breed as already started. It should be remembered that the Columbia as it exists today is the outcome of a definitely planned experiment in breeding, namely, to secure a true breeding sheep having the characteristics of the first-cross Lincoln-Merino. Any short cuts that might suggest themselves as an easy way to improve the breed such as another cross of Rambouillet or even the throwing in of one cross of Corriedale blood, should not be allowed to upset the plan of the original experiment, which by patience, can be carried to a successful conclusion. Long, hard experiments such as this are best suited to the province of the Federal government. This experiment has already contributed much valuable material which will find its place in the science of breeding. For instance, the intensive in-breeding of cross-bred sheep has been carried through several generations without any loss of vigor or size. Nor has the wool split into distinct fine and coarse units but the original half-bred blend has been maintained, although the blend is not yet so perfect as in the wool of the Corriedale. The Columbia experiment should be continued on the lines laid

down, and any out-crosses for the purpose of introducing new blood should be considered new experiments and carried out as such.

Every student of animal husbandry and every flockmaster of the range states should keep thoroughly posted on the progress of this sheep-breeding work of the government. But the rangeman should not lose sight of a fact, which, it seems to me, has often been passed over too lightly in the discussions of the Columbia, that is the fact that in the entire Columbia breed as it now stands, the Lincoln blood all traces back to one ram which is said to have been one of the best ever brought to this country and, further, that the Rambouillet blood goes back to a very few ewes whose ancestors were selected from the best flocks of the United States.

The results of this experiment do not mean that every Lincoln-Rambouillet cross can be developed into a breed as good as the Columbias produced by the government. The chance is certainly small that a rangeman starting from the cross of a third-rate Lincoln ram on fine-wooled ewes of mixed ancestry will be successful in producing a breed that would anywhere near equal the Columbia. One has but to be present when the men who have brought the Columbia to the place where it is today are discussing the next step in mating—what rams are to be used on what ewes—to realize that building a new breed is not an easy proposition even with the best of blood as a starting point. A new breed of sheep if it is going to amount to anything will be the result of the work of experts who study the individuals in mating and who carry on a rigorous and systematic culling of the off-spring.

It is good to know that the government's Columbia experiment has made so much progress in so short a time. But let us not get the idea that anyone can start with any cross of Lincolns and fine-wools and build a breed worthy to be called the American Corriedale.

[The origin of Columbia sheep was

fully explained in the Wool Grower of January, 1920. The younger stock of this cross now in the government flock represent the fifth generation of continuous breeding from a Lincoln-Merino foundation without a mixture of other blood or returning to either straight Lincolns or straight Merino blood. It should be borne in mind that in the breeding of this and similar types equal emphasis is placed upon carcasses and fleece. Weight and finish in lambs at four and a half months, hardiness, ranging and breeding qualities are all to be considered along with fleece as requisites to a true breeding type of range sheep equally useful for lamb and wool production.]

#### DIPPING OF SHEEP ORDERED IN ARIZONA

The Arizona Sheep Sanitary Commission has sent out notices to owners or persons in charge, that all sheep in the state, except that portion lying north of the Colorado River known as the strip, not accompanied by certificates satisfactory to the commission, must be dipped under the supervision of a Federal or state inspector at a time between August 1 and November 1, 1921.

To comply with the order all sheep must be dipped in a dip made from lime and sulphur or nicotine and sulphur prepared and used in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Federal Bureau of Animal Industry and of the commission.

The order is signed by H. J. Gray, chairman; Geo. H. Wilbur, member; and A. B. Candelaria, member.

BERT HASKETT.

#### FOR TRADE

One of the best cattle and sheep ranches in Tooele County to trade for good farming property near good town.

Address "B,"  
Care National Wool Grower

#### LIVE STOCK LOANS EASIER

A large amount of cattle paper that fell due August 1st, has been renewed, and there is an inclination among bankers in the Tenth Federal Reserve Bank district to regard live stock loans more favorably.

C. M. P.

#### FOR SALE

##### Sheep and Ranch

1,500 cross-bred and fine-wooled ewes, 3's and 4's; delivery, October 1. Price, \$6.00.

Eastern Idaho stock ranch, 1,200 acres, 160 irrigated. Price, \$14,000.00. Very easy terms.

Will sell sheep or ranch separately.

**E. R. M'CLURE**

Rupert, Idaho

#### Rambouillets

I have for sale at Gooding, Idaho, 90 head of pure-bred, 2-year-old Rambouillet bucks; some of them are registered. These bucks are good ones and priced to sell.

Write or phone to

J. E. KEITH      Wilson, Idaho

#### SOME THINGS THE WOOL GROWERS COMMISSION COMPANY DOES NOT DO

Recently a car of lambs was bought by a speculator on the Denver market from a member of the exchange (we understand with freight paid to the Missouri River) at \$5.50 per hundredweight. The lambs were sold in St. Joe for \$7.10 per hundredweight, a margin of \$1.60 per hundredweight, with three pounds per head shrink. These prices show a neat little profit of something over \$200 on the car.

Another case: A car of yearling wethers that had not been shorn was sold to a speculator at Kansas City by a member of the exchange at \$5.65 per hundredweight. The purchaser sheared them, getting 8 pounds of wool per head, which he sold at 12 cents a pound. He then took them to the St. Joe market where they were sold to a packer at \$7.25 per hundredweight, the St. Joe weight of the sheep and the wool amounting to the same as the weight when purchased. This transaction should show a profit of about \$300 on the car.

We can furnish the names and all the facts regarding these two transactions to anyone interested.

MORAL: Consign to YOUR OWN FIRM, The Wool Growers Commission Company, the firm with offices at all markets, that has your interest and the welfare of the sheep industry at heart,—the firm that will not sell "for less than they are worth."

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## JULY WEATHER ON WESTERN RANGES

By J. Cecil Alter.

The following summary of weather, live stock and range conditions has been compiled from the various reports and publications of the United States Weather Bureau:

**UTAH**—Abnormally warm weather prevailed with only a fair amount of rain. The National Forest ranges and the cattle and sheep on them have continued in good or excellent condition, though the pastures and ranges at the lower elevations were drying out appreciably toward the close of the month. The unusual drought in the extreme southwestern portion necessitated the shipment of a large number of cattle to better feed. Frost in the first week nipped some alfalfa at the higher altitudes, but as a rule the second crop of alfalfa has done well and good yields are being gathered.

**NEVADA**—Unusually warm weather prevailed after the first week, and the rainfall generally was light, making excellent conditions for the harvesting of a good crop of alfalfa and wild hay. The ranges at the higher altitudes have flourished and cattle and sheep on them have done well. Toward the close of the month, however, the ranges at the intermediate and lower levels of the whole state were more or less in need of rain; and even rather early in the month the shipment of cattle began from the extreme southern portion, owing to the drought.

**IDAHO**—Unusually warm weather prevailed, with only occasional showers, being fine for hay making, and for the higher grazing ranges. Forage has continued ample and cattle and sheep have thriven, though at the close of the month the need for a good general rain was being noticed at the lower levels. Some sheep have already been moved from Owyhee County owing to feed shortage at the lower levels. The alfalfa hay has gone into the stack in fine condition generally.

**MONTANA**—Light to heavy rains early in the month were very bene-

ficial to the ranges, and the moisture and the subsequent warm weather forced a fine growth of feed. Just at the close of the month, however, the need was being felt for a good rain over the ranges, particularly at the lower altitudes. The range grasses were curing nicely, and feed has continued ample. Stock have as a consequence done well with little exception. There was a little loss of hay in the fields in the first week.

**WYOMING** — Abnormally warm weather prevailed, though rains were not abundant, except locally, and as a rule there has been much drying of the range, especially at the lower altitudes. The amount of feed, however, has continued sufficient, and stock are mostly in excellent condition.

**COLORADO** — Moderately warm weather prevailed and as showers were generally ample and timely, the forage and hay crops made fine growth. An exception is noted in the extreme northeastern portion, where rain is needed. The live stock ranges have been better than usual, and stock have continued good or excellent. The hay crop generally has been gathered in favorable weather.

**WESTERN TEXAS**—Showers have been fairly well distributed, making favorable weather on the live stock ranges, except that at the end of the month the need for rain was being noticed locally.

**NEW MEXICO**—Showers have been fairly general over the state, excepting only in the extreme southwestern portion. In the eastern portion local down-pours were detrimental to some

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interests. The range and hay crops made excellent growth. The drought was rather acute in the southwestern portion during most of the month, and stock were thin, with some losses reported, but showers later in the month were improving the outlook in this district right at the end of the month.

**ARIZONA**—Copious showers, well distributed and timely, have made this an excellent month over the state, in comparison with the past several months. Rain was especially heavy at many places in the southern portion, where the drought has been most severe and prolonged, and the grass has started to grow encouragingly on the desert, plateau and mountain ranges generally. However, the stock have been so thin that they are by no means back to normal, and shipments were made during the month from the Seligman district to California for feed. Owing to the local nature of the showers there is still a scarcity of stock water in places.

**CALIFORNIA**—Comparatively dry weather generally has caused a slow deterioration of the pastures and lower ranges, and many watering places have dried up. However, there has been ample feed for such stock as has remained on these areas, and the mountain ranges and sheep and cattle on them have continued comparatively good.

**OREGON**—The weather has been ideal for haying and a great deal of hay has been harvested. The range feed continued to dry out generally at the lower altitudes, though there has been no important lack of feed. Live stock have continued to do well in the pastures and lower ranges, except locally, and range and live stock in the mountains have been good.

**WASHINGTON**—The weather has been comparatively dry and the pastures and ranges are showing the effects somewhat, though conditions have been excellent for haying.

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### SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO

Feeders lost money in this section last season and I suppose \$3 to \$4 would buy the best ewes here, although I have heard of no sales. Four to five cents will catch most of the feeding lambs. Some wool has been sold as high as 13 cents, I understand, but the prevailing offers are from eight to ten cents.

We had a nice open winter and stock of all kinds went through in good condition with very little reeding. Spring grass was good in most sections and lambing was generally good. It is very dry just now, however. The grass is all right for fattening older stock, but too dry for producing milk for growing lambs. The bands of sheep are all smaller than a few years ago, as all of the free range has gone and we have instead barbed wire fences, lanes and growing crops. Where the homesteader shows any enterprise at all he is producing surprising crops of feed and good garden vegetables. I love sheep, but the Mexican help we have had to depend on is very discouraging along with the many other things that are crippling the industry at present. Yet every time I open the Wool Grower and look at the sheep pictures and read of the brighter future for the business, I grow homesick for another band of white-faced ewes and I should not be surprised if I wake up some morning and find myself back in the game again. Leslie Elmore. Trinidad, Colorado.

### CROP CONDITIONS IN OHIO

Crop conditions here are not very good, as it has been very dry. I do not see how we are going to have more than a half crop of corn. The oat crop is poor and the wheat is about 75 per cent. Hay crop is good.

The farmers here do not seem as down-hearted as conditions might warrant. Sheepmen are culling out, showing no disposition to sacrifice stock and the same seems true of all stock. Quite a number of Rambouillets have been sold to Japan. C. A. Steele.

South Vienna, Ohio.

**CROSS-BRED EWES**

During the week I have had inquiries from a dozen parties wanting cross-bred ewes or ewe lambs and not a single one of these men would take fine-wools. I do not see how men can expect to buy cross-bred ewes when for the past four years it has been well nigh impossible to sell a coarse-wooled ram. For three years at least the rage has been for fine-wooled or black-faced bucks. At the last two Salt Lake Ram Sales, Lincoln and Cotswold rams have been unmerchanted and went begging at \$20 per head. The result is that most of the flocks of Lincoln and Cotswold ewes have either been shipped to market or bred to Hampshire rams, so that if we ever do want coarse rams again, good ones will be hard to find. Of course, one can get just as good a cross-bred ewe by breeding a cross-bred ram to a cross-bred ewe, but most breeders do not agree with this so that the cross-bred rams were not sold last year and probably will not be sold this year. Until someone begins breeding to get cross-bred sheep, there will not be very many for sale. S. W. McClure.  
Nampa, Idaho.

**GOOD CROPS IN NEBRASKA**

There are very few sheep raised here but quite a good many fed during the fall and winter months. Conditions for crops have been good and all of them are fine, especially the corn crop. In fact, I have never seen better prospects for a corn crop than at present. All of the crops will be from two to three weeks earlier than usual. The first cutting of alfalfa hay was short on account of winter killing.

Wages are much lower in this section than they were a year ago—\$25 to \$40 per month is being paid for farm labor.

L. B. Denham.

Wymore, Nebraska.

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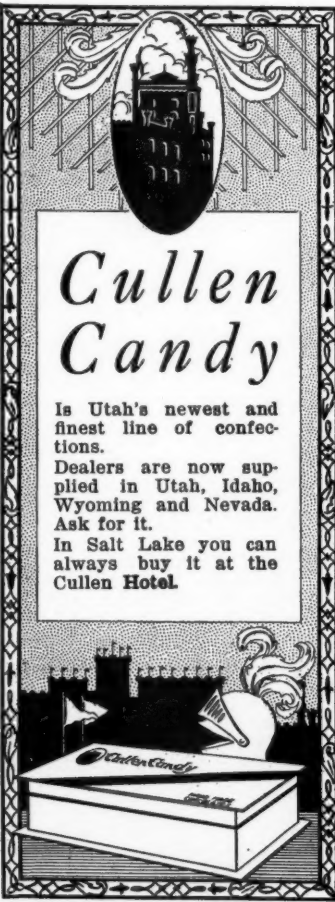


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Both shipments were sold by the Wool Growers Commission Company.  
BERT HASKETT.

### BETTER AND FEWER SHEEP

Here are a few lines on sheep conditions here. Everything is in good shape. There is lot of grass, but as this is a homestead country and sheepmen are compelled to lease their feed at an unreasonable price, it looks as though the sheepman will be driven to some other part of the universe or quit and nurse his sorrows in some other way. Now, I am not guessing at this, for I have been a herder for sixteen years and have owned sheep for two years. I do all my own work, own my summer range, had 128 per cent of lambs this year, got  $9\frac{1}{4}$  pounds of wool per head from last year's lambs and  $8\frac{3}{4}$  pounds from the ewes and sold the wool (9,000 pounds) for 19 cents. That can easily be figured, and then I can prove where we sheepmen do not make wages at \$50 per month. So where are my brother sheepmen going to get off at? The land owner wants 50 cents per acre for feed. Figure two sections to feed one bunch of 2,000 besides other expenses and it will tell you that the sheepmen are fast going broke.

Those who think it worth while to increase the weight of their range ewes should examine the Cunningham Sheep Company's bucks. My yearlings

are out of their bucks. They are smooth, large and very easy to handle. By being careful in breeding I am sure it will soon be known that a 12-pound range ewe can be run. In this experiment bands of only 500 or 600 head should be used, as larger bands cannot produce such lambs, and the growth of the lamb is where the success comes in. A stunted lamb eventually breeds sheep with weak bodies, consequently of low stamina and light shearing. Better sheep and fewer sheep ought to prove a demon to hard times.

Diamond, Oregon. Chas. P. Kuhl.

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Dry, fat ewes and wethers are very low. A few breeding ewes, two- and three-year-olds, have sold from \$4 to \$4.50, with not much demand for them. I have calls for around 20,000 feeder lambs for later delivery in September and October. I can use some from southern Oregon, Nevada or California, if prices are right. Owners who have such for sale might do well to correspond with me at Chester, California. Some lambs have been sold in Chester and Westwood around 6½ cents, most of them going to Los Angeles. San Francisco buyers have been offering 6 cents. Geo. R. Stover.

Chester, California.

## IDAHO EWES SOLD

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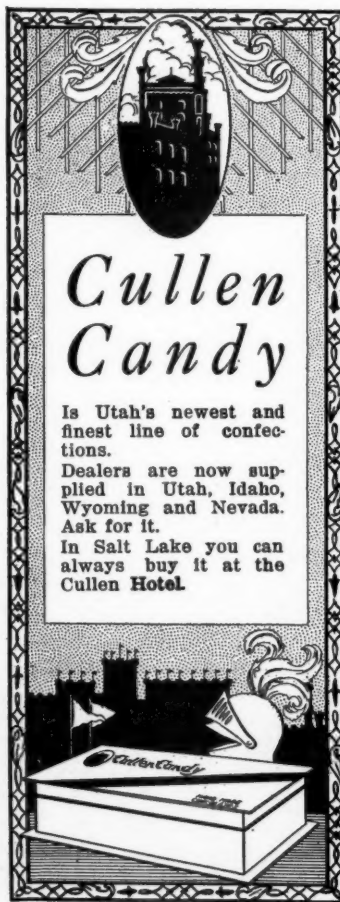
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PURITY. Freedom from tarry impurities.

HIGH CONCENTRATION. Goes further than others. 1-120 for Tick Dipping.

UNIFORM STRENGTH. Guaranteed under Insecticide Act of 1910.

EASY TO USE. Simply mix with water.

THOROUGHLY EFFICIENT.

NO OBJECTIONABLE ODOR.

BENEFICIAL TO ALL LIVE STOCK.

WILL NOT STAIN WOOL OR CLOTHING.

NON-POISONOUS. NON-INJURIOUS.